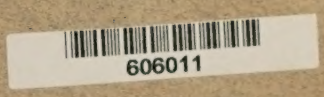
University of London


606011

REPORTS

FROM

COMMITTEES:

EIGHT VOLUMES.

—(6.)—

METROPOLIS GAS BILL;
METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.;
TURNPIKE TRUSTS BILL.

Session

5 February —— 21 *August* 1867.

VOL. XII.

1867.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2026

https://archive.org/details/reportsfromcommi0012grea_h7z7

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

1867.

EIGHT VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

SIXTH VOLUME.

N. B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

METROPOLIS GAS BILL:

520. SPECIAL REPORT from the Select Committee on the METROPOLIS GAS BILL; together with the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE, MINUTES of EVIDENCE, and APPENDIX - - - - p. 1

520–I. INDEX to Ditto - - - - - - - - - 373

METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.:

135. REPORTS from the Select Committee on METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c. (London (City) Improvement Rates Bill), 431

268. SECOND REPORT from the Select Committee on METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.; together with the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE, and APPENDIX - - - - - - 435

301. THIRD REPORT from the Select Committee on METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.; together with the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE, MINUTES of EVIDENCE, and APPENDIX - 443

301–I. INDEX to REPORTS - - - - - - - - - 661

TURNPIKE TRUSTS BILL:

352. SPECIAL REPORT from the Select Committee on TURNPIKE TRUSTS BILL; together with the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE, and MINUTES of EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - 709

SPECIAL

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

METROPOLIS GAS BILL;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND APPENDIX,

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
8 *August* 1867.

Thursday, 9th May 1867.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—*Ordered*, That the Bill be *re-committed* to a Select Committee of five Members to be appointed by the Committee of Selection.

Friday, 10th May 1867.

Gas Light and Coke Company Bill,—*Ordered*, That the Gas Light and Coke Company Bill be committed to the Select Committee on the Metropolis Gas Bill, and that with respect to the said Bill, Standing Orders 92, 93, 95, and 96, be suspended, and the Committee have power to inquire into all matters as to which parties petitioning against the Bill pray to be heard in opposition thereto.

Monday, 13th May 1867.

Imperial Gas Bill,—*Ordered*, That the Imperial Gas Bill be committed to the Select Committee on the Metropolis Gas Bill, and that with respect to the said Bill, Standing Orders 92, 93, 95, and 96, be suspended, and that the Committee have power to inquire into all matters as to which parties petitioning against the Bill pray to be heard in opposition thereto.

Tuesday, 14th May 1867.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petitions *against*;—From Leeds New Gas Company;—W. M. Nunn, of Deptford;—and, R. H. Webb; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petition from the Metropolitan Board of Works, praying to be heard by Counsel *against*; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill:—Counsel ordered.

Committee appointed by the Committee of Selection—

Right Honourable E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Graham.
Mr. Peel (Tamworth).	

Wednesday, 15th May 1867.

Committee of Selection.

Mr. Cardwell is appointed Chairman of the Committee.

Thursday, 16th May 1867.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petitions praying to be heard by Counsel *against*;—From Surrey Consumers' Gas Company;—and, Phœnix Gas Light and Coke Company; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill;—Counsel ordered.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—*Ordered*, That all Petitions presented this Session respecting the Metropolis Gas Bill be referred to the Select Committee on the Bill, and that such Petitioners as shall have prayed to be heard by themselves, their Counsel, or Agents, be heard upon their Petitions if they think fit, and Counsel heard in favour of the Bill against such Petitions:—That the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Gas (Metropolis) Bill (1860) &c.,—*Ordered*, That the Reports of the Committees on the Gas (Metropolis) Bill in Session 1860, and the London (City) Corporation Gas Bill and the London Gas Bill in Session 1866, together with the Minutes of the Evidence taken before the said Committees, and the Return relative to Gas (Metropolis) [presented 11th March], be referred to the Select Committee on the Metropolis Gas Bill.

Friday, 17*th May* 1867.

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION.

Metropolis Gas, &c., Bills.

Mr. Graham is discharged from further attendance on the Committee.

Mr. Lefevre is added to the Committee.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, *against*; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petitions *against*;—From the Castleford Gas Light Company;—and, Jonathan Massey, shareholder in Great Central Gas Consumers' Company; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petitions praying to be heard by Counsel *against*;—From South Metropolitan Gas Light Company;—Equitable Gas Light Company;—Great Central Gas Consumers' Company;—London Gas Light Company;—Western Gas Light Company;—Gas Light and Coke Company;—Independent Gas Light and Coke Company;—Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company;—City of London Gas Light and Coke Company;—Ratcliff Gas Light and Coke Company;—and, Commercial Gas Company; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill:—Counsel ordered.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—*Ordered*, THAT the parties appearing before the Select Committee on the Metropolis Gas Bill have leave to print the Minutes of the Evidence taken before the Committee day by day from the Committee clerk's copy, if they think fit.

Tuesday, 21*st May* 1867.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petitions praying to be heard by Counsel *against*;—From Crystal Palace District Gas Consumers;—and, Wandsworth and Putney Gas Light and Coke Company; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill:—Counsel ordered.

Friday, 24*th May* 1867.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, praying to be heard by Counsel *against*; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill:—Counsel ordered.

(This Petition was presented in consequence of the previous one not containing the prayer to be allowed to be heard by their Counsel, &c.)

Friday, 31*st May* 1867.

Metropolis Gas Bill,—Petition of Vestry of Saint Marylebone, praying to be heard by Counsel *against*; referred to the Select Committee on the Bill:—Counsel ordered.

Tuesday, 23*rd July* 1867.

Metropolis Gas Bill, &c.,—*Ordered*, THAT the Select Committee on the Metropolis Gas Bill, &c., have leave to make a Special Report.

Ordered, THAT three be the quorum of the said Committee.

REPORTS - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. iv
SPECIAL REPORT - - - - - - - - - p. v
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE - - - - - p. xvii
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - - p. 1
APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 285

REPORTS.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE to whom the METROPOLIS GAS BILL was referred, have agreed to Report the same without Amendment.

GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY BILL.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE to whom the GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY BILL was referred, had proceeded to examine the allegations contained in the Preamble of the Bill, but the parties promoting the same stated to the Committee that it was not their intention to proceed with the Bill.

IMPERIAL GAS BILL.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE to whom the IMPERIAL GAS BILL was referred, had proceeded to examine the allegations contained in the Preamble of the Bill, but the parties promoting the same stated to the Committee that it was not their intention to proceed with the Bill.

SPECIAL REPORT.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE on the METROPOLIS GAS BILL have agreed to the following SPECIAL REPORT:—

THE "Metropolis Gas Bill, 1867," was introduced by the President of the Board of Trade, as an amendment of "The Metropolis Gas Act, 1860," and in consequence of the Report of the Committee which, in the Session of 1866, inquired into the operation and result of that Act. It will be convenient, therefore, to advert in the first instance to the principal provisions of the Act of 1860.

The supply of Gas to the Metropolis is furnished by 13 Companies, which formerly were exposed, in several districts, to keen competition with each other. But in the year 1853 the Companies south of the Thames, and in the year 1857 the Companies north of the Thames, entered into arrangements for terminating that competition, and divided the Metropolis into districts, upon the principle of exclusive supply. These arrangements were followed by complaints from various local bodies consuming gas for public lights, and from other consumers; and in consequence of these complaints, after long inquiry and protracted discussion, the Act of 1860 was passed. Its principal provisions, so far as it is necessary to state them for the present purpose, are embodied in the following sections, viz.:

10 & 11 Vict. c. 15, incorpora with this Act.

"II. 'The Gasworks Clauses Act, 1847' (except so far as the provisions thereof are inconsistent with this Act), is incorporated with and forms part of this Act, and shall apply to the several Companies before named or referred to as fully as if the gasworks of the several Companies were authorised by this Act; and the expression 'undertakers' in the recited Act shall be held to apply to every Gas Company affected by this Act; but it shall not be lawful for any Gas Company, by the application of any of their profits or funds, to make up to the prescribed rate or the rate of 10 pounds per centum per Annum, where no such rate shall be prescribed, any dividend which shall have been payable more than six years previously."

Sanctioning assignment of dis tricts to Gas Companies to b subject to trienn revision.

"VI. The limits of each of the said Companies shall be the respective districts supplied with gas by such Companies as the same are defined upon four duplicate maps, signed by the Right Honourable Thomas Henry Sotheron Estcourt, and which maps have been severally deposited with the respective Clerks of the Peace for the counties of Middlesex, London, Surrey, and Kent; provided that at the expiration of three years next after the passing of this Act, and of every three years thereafter, Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Home Department for the time being may, either upon the application and with the consent of any two or more of the said Gas Companies whose districts adjoin one another, make any alteration in the boundaries of such districts, or upon the application of any local authority, or upon the requisition of not less than 20 gas consumers within any district or districts proposed to be affected, and upon proof to his satisfaction being given that any of the said Gas Companies are not in a condition adequately to supply with gas their respective districts, or have substantially failed to fulfil the obligations imposed by this Act, may make such alterations in the boundaries of such districts, or admit any new Company respectively as he thinks proper; and all such alterations shall be certified on one or more maps, to be signed by the said Secretary of State, and deposited with one or more of the said Clerks of the Peace; and such last-mentioned map or maps shall be binding on all parties, and the provisions of this Act shall be held to

apply to the several districts when so altered, and to the several Companies affected thereby, as fully and effectually as if no alteration in such districts had been made, and no other Company or person than the Company to whom such limits are for the time being assigned or shall hereafter be assigned shall supply gas for sale within the said limits, unless authorised by Parliament so to do; provided that before proceeding to consider the necessity for altering any of the said districts the said Secretary of State shall cause at least one month's notice to be given of such application to all parties interested therein or affected thereby, and such notice shall state the day and hour when and the place where such application will be considered; and notices to be given to ang Gas Company shall be left with the Secretary or some other principal officer of the Company, and notices to be given to any local authority shall be left with the clerk or some other principal officer of the said local authority."

Illuminating power and purity of gas.

"XXV. The quality of the common gas supplied by any Gas Company shall be, with respect to its illuminating power at a distance as near as may be of 1,000 yards from the works, such as to produce from an argand burner having 15 holes and a seven-inch chimney, consuming five cubic feet of gas an hour, a light equal in intensity to the light produced by not less than 12 sperm candles of six to the pound, each burning 120 grains an hour, and the quantity of cannel gas supplied by any Gas Company shall, with respect to its illuminating power at the distance aforesaid, be such as to produce from a batswing or fishtail burner consuming five feet of gas per hour, a light equal in intensity to 20 such sperm candles, and each such gas shall, with respect to its purity, be so far free from ammonia and sulphuretted hydrogen, that it shall not discolour either turmeric paper or paper imbued with acetate or carbonate of lead, when those tests are exposed to a current of gas issuing for one minute under a pressure of five-tenths of an inch of water, and shall not contain more than 20 grains of sulphur in any form in 100 cubic feet of gas; provided that any Gas Company, and the local authorities of the district supplied by such company, shall be at liberty to agree upon any other or different test by which to ascertain the purity of the gas, or to vary the amounts of ammonia or sulphur in any form herein-before allowed, and thereupon the company shall be thenceforth liable to have the purity of their gas tested in the manner so prescribed."

Appeal by consumers to Home Secretary on rise of price of gas.

"XL. No Company shall advance the price of gas above the rate taken by such Company, on the 1st day of January 1860, whenever such rate is at or above 4 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, unless there has been such increase in the cost of gas, or any other circumstances affecting the Company, as will warrant such advance: provided always, that before raising the gas rate in any district the Gas Company supplying such district shall give notice of their intention to the local authorities of the district, and in some newspaper circulating within the district for two consecutive weeks at least one month before such alteration in the gas rate shall be made; and in case any local authority shall, within such month, dissent from such alteration, it shall be determined by arbitration in the manner herein-before mentioned whether such alteration shall be allowed: provided always, that no Gas Company shall charge for common gas supplied by them any sum exceeding 5 *s.* 6 *d.* for every 1,000 cubic feet, or for cannel gas any sum exceeding 7 *s.* 6 *d.* for every 1,000 cubic feet: provided also that any Company shall be at liberty to change the kind of gas from time to time supplied by such Company, whether common or cannel gas, on giving three months notice of their intention so to do; and upon the expiration of such notice the Company shall thenceforth supply gas pursuant thereto under the provisions of this Act until any like notice shall be given for a further change; and when the Company shall change the supply from cannel gas to common gas, the rate shall be reduced so as not to exceed 4 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, except under the circumstances and in the manner hereinbefore set forth."

The principal effect of the Act of 1860, in applying the Act of 1847 to all those Companies to which it had not been already applied, was to call into existence, as regarded those Companies, the following provisions, viz.—

Profits of the Company limited.

"XXX. The profits of the undertaking to be divided amongst the undertakers in any year shall not exceed the prescribed rate, or where no rate is prescribed, they

they shall not exceed the rate of 10 pounds in the hundred by the year on the paid-up capital in the undertaking, which in such case shall be deemed the prescribed rate, unless a larger dividend be at any time necessary to make up the deficiency of any previous dividend which shall have fallen short of the said yearly rate.

If profits exceed the amount limited, excess to be invested and form a reserve fund.

"XXXI. If the clear profits of the undertaking in any year amount to a larger sum than is sufficient, after making up the deficiency in the dividends of any previous year as aforesaid, to make a dividend at the prescribed rate, the excess beyond the sum necessary for such purpose shall from time to time be invested in Government or other securities; and the dividends and interest arising from such securities shall also be invested in the same or like securities, in order that the same may accumulate at compound interest, until the fund so formed amounts to the prescribed sum, or if no sum be prescribed, a sum equal to one-tenth of the nominal capital of the undertakers, which sum shall form a reserved fund to answer any deficiency which may at any time happen in the amount of divisible profits, or to meet any extraordinary claim or demand which may at any time arise against the undertakers; and if such fund be at any time reduced, it may thereafter be again restored to the said sum, and so from time to time as often as such reduction shall happen.

Reserved fund not to be resorted to unless to meet an extraordinary claim.

"XXXII. Provided always, that no sum of money shall be taken from the said fund for the purpose of meeting any extraordinary claim, unless it be first certified in England or Ireland by two justices, and in Scotland by the sheriff, that the sum so proposed to be taken is required for the purpose of meeting an extraordinary claim within the meaning of this or the special Act.

When fund amounts to prescribed sum, interest to be applied to purposes of the undertaking.

"XXXIII. When such fund shall, by accumulation or otherwise amount to the prescribed sum, or one-tenth of the nominal capital of the Company, as the case may be, the interest and dividends thereon shall no longer be invested, but shall be applied to any of the general purposes of the undertaking to which the profits thereof are applicable.

If profits are less than the prescribed rate, a sum may be taken from the reserved fund to supply deficiency.

"XXXIV. If in any year the profits of the undertaking divisible amongst the undertakers shall not amount to the prescribed rate, such a sum may be taken from the reserved fund as, with the actual divisible profits of such year, will enable the undertakers to make a dividend of the amount aforesaid, and so from time to time as often as the occasion shall require."

If profits are more than the amount prescribed, a rateable reduction to be made in the price of gas.

"XXXV. In England or Ireland the Court of Quarter Sessions, and in Scotland the sheriff, may, on the petition of any two gas ratepayers within the limits of the special Act, nominate and appoint some accountant or other competent person, not being a proprietor of any gasworks, to examine and ascertain, at the expense of the undertakers (the amount of such expense to be determined by the said court or sheriff), the actual state and condition of the concerns of the undertakers, and to make report thereof to the said court at the then present or some following sessions or to the sheriff; and the said court or sheriff may examine any witnesses upon oath touching the truth of the said accounts, and the matters therein referred to; and if it thereupon appear to the said court or sheriff that the profits of the undertakers for the preceding year have exceeded the prescribed rate, the undertakers shall, in case the whole of the said reserved fund has been and then remains invested as aforesaid, and in case dividends to the amount hereinbefore limited have been paid, make such a rateable reduction in the rate for gas to be furnished by them as in the judgment of the said court or sheriff shall be proper, but so as such rates, when reduced, shall ensure to the undertakers (regard being had to the amount of profit before received) a profit as near as may be to the prescribed rate.

Court may order petitioner to pay costs of groundless petition.

"XXXVI. Provided always, that if, in the case of any petition so presented, it appear to the said court or sheriff that there was no sufficient ground for presenting the same, the said court or sheriff may, if they or he think fit, order the petitioner to pay the whole or any part of the costs of or incident to such petition (the amount thereof to be determined by the said court or sheriff), and the costs so ordered to be paid shall be recoverable in the same way as damages are recoverable under this or the special Act.

Penalty on undertakers for refusing to produce books, vouchers, &c.

"XXXVII. If the undertakers shall, for seven days after being required to produce to the said court or sheriff, or to the said accountant or other person as

as aforesaid, any books of account or other books, bills, receipts, vouchers, or papers relating to the pecuniary affairs of the undertakers, refuse or neglect to produce such books, bills, receipts, vouchers, or papers, they shall forfeit the sum of 100 *l.* for every such refusal or wilful neglect, and the further sum of 10 *l.* for every day such refusal or wilful neglect shall continue after the expiration of the said seven days, such respective penalties to be recovered by any person who will sue for the same, with full costs of suit, in any of the superior courts."

The Act of 1860 also contains provisions, intended for the benefit of the consumer, which are chiefly these; viz., provisions for compelling each Company to supply gas within its district, for limiting the amount of impurity, and for securing the publication of the accounts of the Companies; but the machinery by which the right of the consumer to the utmost economy of manufacture, and to the other advantages of statutory regulation, is to be secured, is either very insufficient, or altogether wanting, in the Act of 1860.

The supply of gas to the Metropolis, then, is at present regulated by the combined operation of the Acts of 1847 and of 1860, and is in the hands of 13 Companies; and in order to a complete understanding of the questions which have been principally discussed before your Committee, it is necessary to bring intoview the claims respectively put forward by the Companies on one side, and by the Metropolitan Board of Works and the Corporation of London, representing the consumers, on the other. The Companies contend that, under the operation of these statutes they are entitled to what they call a "statutory" dividend of 10 per cent. upon the larger portion of their capital, giving to the public the benefit of any surplus over that amount; on the other hand, the Corporation of London, having unsuccessfully prosecuted, in the Session of 1866, a Bill of their own, by which they proposed to raise capital on the security of the revenues of the City, and to furnish gas of 18 candles' power, at the price of 3*s.* per 1,000 feet, contended that the Companies, if they retain the right of supplying the Metropolis, should be required to furnish gas of the last-mentioned quality at a price not exceeding 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet. The Metropolitan Board of Works also appeared, and, in conjunction with the City, represented before your Committee the interests of the consumer.

The Committee of 1866, to which the Bill of the City was referred, with an instruction to inquire into the operation and results of the Act of 1860, among other things, recommended, "that the system of districts should be "continued, and with a view to the economy of administration and the con- "venience of the consumers and of the public, that every facility should be "afforded by Parliament for the further extension of the system of regulated "monopoly, either in the way of the amalgamation of the several existing "Companies, or of the disposal of the interests of the several Companies in the "Metropolis to some body or bodies representing the ratepayers of the Metro- "polis, on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon, and as Parliament "may see fit to impose."

But no Bills have been referred to your Committee, either for the amalgamation of the existing Companies, or for the disposal of their interest to any body or bodies of persons representing the ratepayers of the Metropolis.

The Bill of 1867 in its original form, as it was read a first time in the House of Commons, contemplated, among other things—

1st. The repeal of the second section of the Act of 1860, before set out in this Report, with reference to the amount of profit and the rate of dividend.

2ndly. The constitution of a metropolitan gas board who should from time to time prescribe and certify the mode of testing and recording the illuminating power and purity of gas supplied by the Companies, fixing the maximum price at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet of 14 candle gas, but limiting the dividend to seven per cent. per annum where that price was charged, with a sliding scale for an increased dividend where the rate charged was below the maximum price, with a power for the Metropolitan Board of Works, or the Commissioners of Sewers, from time to time to enter into agreements for the purchase of the undertaking of any Company.

But

But these proposals led to a strenuous opposition, and having been referred *pro formâ* to a Committee of the Whole House, the Bill was ultimately sent to your Committee, with the clause for the repeal of section 2 of the Act of 1860, as regarded the Company's rate of dividend, struck out,—with blanks left in the Bill for both the maximum price and illuminating power of gas to be supplied by the Companies,—and with powers for the Board of Trade from time to time to increase or diminish the illuminating power when an increase or diminution in the cost of the production of gas was shown to their satisfaction; and the clauses authorising the Metropolitan Board of Works, or Commissioners of Sewers, to enter into agreements for the purchase of the undertakings of the Companies were omitted.

The Board of Trade appeared as the party promoting the Bill in this form. But the counsel of that Board made in the first instance no proposals to the Committee with a view of filling up the blanks, and the nature and extent of the proposals for that purpose really constituted the principal question in dispute. The case of the consumer, therefore, was brought before the Committee by the counsel and witnesses of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and of the Corporation of London. But these bodies only appeared as petitioners against the Bill promoted by the Board of Trade, and not as promoters of any Bill or Bills for furnishing to the consumer a supply independent of that furnished by the Companies. This position of the parties necessarily raised the question, "Whether your Committee was prepared to recommend the adoption of a Bill, compelling the Companies to supply the consumer on other terms than those on which they have been authorised by Parliament to raise, and have actually raised, the capital they employ?" To this question your Committee could only return one answer. However evident, and however great, may be the advantages of a single supply, under conditions securing to the consumer all that he is entitled to, as regards the quality and price of the article supplied, yet a compulsory and unconditional interference with the prices already conceded to the producer, is not the weapon by which Parliament is accustomed to secure the rights of the consumer. The legitimate weapon to be resorted to for that purpose is the enactment of an independent supply; and to that weapon your Committee, for the reasons already stated, have been unable to resort.

Moreover, it appeared from what passed on the second reading of the Bill, and from Papers which have been already printed for the House, that before the second reading of the Bill, communications had passed between the President of the Board of Trade and the Companies, from which communications it resulted that the Board was bound to proceed with the Bill only upon certain terms; and in answer to an appeal from the Counsel of the Companies, the Counsel of the Board thus expressed the result of those communications to the Committee; viz., that the Board was bound not to proceed with the Bill, unless the 10 per cent. were retained on the same basis and on the same terms as they appear in Clause 30 of the Act of 1847.

With powers so limited by the circumstances under which the measure was proposed, your Committee proceeded to consider "whether, and on what terms, the right of exclusive supply ought for the future to be retained by the Companies."

It appears to your Committee that the advantages of a system of exclusive supply are great and obvious, if accompanied by conditions securing the consumer against the evils to which monopoly, unrestrained by sufficient regulations, is calculated to give rise. These advantages involve many considerations of public convenience and of economy; and in the hope of arriving at an arrangement, by which the claims of the Companies might ultimately be reconciled with the just expectations of the consumer, your Committee entered upon a protracted investigation, in the course of which they received much conflicting testimony, which will be found appended to this Report. The result of this testimony, and of the documentary evidence by which it was accompanied, has been to convince your Committee that the Act of 1860, and the arrangements, which it sanctions, have been eminently favourable to the Companies, while the interests of the consumer have been very inadequately protected. It appears

that while the Companies generally under the system of competition paid moderate dividends, under the new arrangements every Company has paid, with rare exceptions, the maximum allowed by the Act of 1847; and that in many cases large sums have been paid besides, in the name of back dividends, to make up for dividends which, under the former system, had fallen short of the maximum.

The total capital of the Companies, as shown by a return put in by them, is at present 6,835,539 *l.*, and the annual amount required to pay interest on loans, and what is called the "statutory" dividend on shares, is 605,156 *l.* The total quantity of gas sold in 1866 was 8,653,517 thousand cubic feet; and upon the assumption that the general price of 4*s.* was the universal price (which is not quite the case, since some of the Companies supply a better gas at a higher price, and two Companies are charging only 3 *s.* 4 *d.*) the amount received would be 1,730,705 *l.* The quantity sold increases annually at a rate of from 5 to 10 per cent. upon each preceding year; and it is evident that if, by improved administration and economy, the increased supply can be furnished to the public without a proportionately increased expenditure of capital, a lower price per 1,000 feet will realise to the shareholder an undiminished dividend. How rapidly this process sometimes operates may be collected from the following Paper, put in by the Western Company:

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, 1867.

WESTERN COMPANY.

	December 1856 (before districting).	December 1866.	Difference per Cent.
Share and Loan Capital, per £.100 Income - -	£. 531. 9.	£. 317. 9.	40·2
The same, per £.100 Gas Rental - - -	£. 608. 7.	£. 364. 8.	40·
The same, per million feet made - - - -	£. 1,610.	£. 842.	47·7
The same, per ton of coal - - - - -	£. 13. 3.	£. 7. 8.	41·3
Gas made - - - - - - - - -	*Cubic feet.* 138,000,000 (nearly.)	*Cubic feet.* 410,000,000 (nearly).	197·
Total Income - - - - - - - -	£. 41,754.	£. 108,651	160·
Number of Consumers - - - - -	4,779.	11,700	144 p' cent.
Amount required for Dividend and Interest per 1,000 feet of Gas made.	*d.* 35·04	*d.* 18·36	47·6

The effect of the system of exclusive supply, upon the interest of the Companies, may be further illustrated by the remark that two Companies, the Independent, and the South Metropolitan, now furnish gas to the consumer, at 3*s.* 4*d.* per 1,000 feet of 14 candle gas; and that their comparative prosperity was thus accounted for to the Committee of 1866 by the solicitor to the Companies: viz.—

"The benefit to the public is when the companies are paying their full dividends, and a reserved fund is formed; every further outlay of capital brings a much larger profit, and the reduction of the price of gas becomes more rapid. Take the instance of two companies observed upon in this Committee, the Independent and the South Metropolitan; they are furnishing gas at 3*s.* 4*d.* instead of 4 *s.*, why is it? By an arrangement, they were able to get a district of their own five years before the other companies, therefore they have sooner come to their maximum dividend; they have sooner put by their reserve fund, and can sooner and more rapidly reduce the price of gas. If the gas companies are allowed to go on, you will find the price of gas coming down every year by the accumulation of profits on the sale of gas. The Committee must be aware that the quantity of gas issued in London is very large; the quantity supplied to the large district of the Imperial is doubled every 10 years."

It is evident, even from the most cursory reference to the map of the gas districts, that the present arrangements fail to afford to the Companies and to the consumer

consumer the greatest attainable advantages of economical manufacture and distribution.

In the analysis of their accounts furnished by themselves the Companies divide their expenditure, exclusive of the sum paid in dividends and interest, into two general heads: viz., 1. Fuel; and 2. General Charges. If we examine the first, viz., fuel, we shall find that the different Companies appear to be very differently circumstanced in this respect; insomuch, that of the eight Companies which supply common gas exclusively, comparing in each case the highest with the lowest, the Commercial paid in 1866, 17 *s.* 4·81 *d.* per ton for coal, while the Surrey Consumers paid only 15 *s.* 1·19 *d.*, and for the same year the Phœnix realised for its residual products 9 *s.* 0·21 *d.*, while the Imperial realised only 6 *s.* 8·18 *d.*, and the net difference, after allowing for the sale of the residual products, between the South Metropolitan, which obtained its fuel upon the most advantageous terms, and the Commercial, which obtained it upon the least advantageous terms, was as follows, viz.:—

	s.	*d.*	
Commercial - - - - -	10	5·72	per ton.
South Metropolitan - - - -	6	6·08	„
Difference - - -	3	11·64	per ton.

This, it will be observed, shows an excess of more than 50 per cent. in the expenditure of the Commercial Company for fuel over that of the South Metropolitan.

Again, if we examine in detail the items which are included under the head of "General Charges," we shall find in the Appendix to the Report of the Committee of 1866, the following Table put in on the part of the consumer, and framed from calculations made by Mr. Hughes; viz.:—

TABLE showing EXPENDITURE per 1,000 Feet of GAS SOLD by each of the LONDON COMPANIES supplying GAS to the METROPOLIS in the Year 1864.

——	Directors and Auditors.	Salaries and Commission to Collectors.	Rates and Taxes.	Stationery, Law Charges, and Incidentals.	Purifying Materials.	Wages and Supervision.	Repairs of Retorts, Works, and Mains.	Restoring and Replacing Meters.	TOTAL.
Imperial - - -	·315	1·860	·915	·690	·480	5·665	7·305	·345	19·273
Chartered - - -	·525	2·205	1·770	·855	·660	6·135	6·180	1·200	19·530
Phœnix - - - -	·705	1·515	1·485	1·095	·555	7·695	6·780	·945	20·775
London - - - -	·555	1·965	1·635	1·125	·435	6·615	13·320	1·155	26·805
Commercial - - -	·705	1·530	1·425	1·125	1·200	7·380	4·410	·330	18·105
City of London - -	·795	1·125	1·035	1·080	·330	7·995	7·500	1·290	21·150
Great Central - - -	·975	1·395	1·005	5·070	·360	6·855	6·285	·645	22·590
Independent - - -	·915	1·575	·915	1·305	·480	8·700	3·075	1·275	18·240
South Metropolitan -	·780	1·935	1·275	·945	·465	8·370	4·830	2·055	20·655
Equitable - - -	1·080	2·055	1·065	·615	·765	4·920	6·405	·585	17·490
Surrey Consumers - -	1·305	1·350	1·470	·885	·570	8·400	4·365	·390	18·735
Ratcliff - - - -	1·260	1·635	1·635	·960	·660	8·715	4·740	·015	19·620
Western - - - -	1·315	2·850	1·014	1·068	·274	8·069	3·233	·644	18·467

From this Table it results, that if the highest expenditure in each case be contrasted with the lowest—

The charge for Directors appeared	Imperial -	0·315	per 1,000 feet.
	Western -	1·315	„
Salaries and commissions -	City - -	1·125	„
	Western -	2·850	„
Wages, &c. - - - -	Equitable -	4·920	„
	Ratcliff -	8·715	„

It does not necessarily follow from these contrasted figures, that in all cases the more economical result is due to the superior management of the Company by which it is attained, or that the blame of wasteful expenditure must be attributed to Companies in respect of which the calculation exhibits a less satisfactory result. But it has appeared to your Committee that a strong inference

arises from these comparisons in favour of the conclusion, that by a judicious amalgamation of these 13 Companies into one, or at least into a very reduced number of Companies, and an adequate control over the expenditure, great economy might result, of which the consumer might have the advantage without prejudice to the dividend earned by the producer. It certainly cannot be expected that the consumer, however willing to give credit to the Companies for the upright and efficient management of their affairs, will be satisfied with a system under which no one appears to have an over-ruling interest in reducing the aggregate expenditure to a minimum, except himself; and under which no one who represents his interest has any share in, or control over, the direction of that expenditure. It is evident also, that among the many advantages which would result from a just and satisfactory settlement of the question would be the power of raising in future by loan, instead of by shares, a considerable proportion of the whole capital employed in the production and distribution of gas, and thus of diminishing the proportionate amount required for dividend.

Particulars of the price and power prescribed in the Acts of Companies in various parts of the country, as compared with those of the London Companies, of the prices actually charged, and of the prices of coal in the respective places, will be found in the Appendix. A reference to that account will give a better guide to the formation of a just opinion, than a brief analysis of a subject, involving so many and so various details of difference.

At the close of the Companies' case, their counsel insisted that 10 per cent. should be (referring to the Act of 1847) the "prescribed" rate, and that there should be a price and an illuminating power fixed in the Bill which fulfilled that condition; but made an offer to accept a maximum price reduced from 4 *s.* 6. *d.* as enacted in 1860, to 4 *s.*, and a minimum illuminating power raised from 12 to 14 candles. But this, though an improvement as regarded the provisions of the statute, would have been little or no concession if compared with the supply already actually enjoyed by the consumer, since no Company is now charging more for common gas than 4 *s.*, while the Independent and South Metropolitan charge only 3 *s.* 4 *d.*, and it must be acknowledged in favour of the Companies that the quality supplied appears to be in general fully equal to 14 candles.

Having, then, heard the case of the Companies as well as that of the consumers, your Committee adopted and communicated to the parties the following Resolutions, viz.:—

"1. That the supply of gas in London ought to be controlled in favour of the consumer, either by the means of an effective competition, or, if the system of an exclusive supply be maintained, by the means of effective regulation.

"2. That neither of these conditions is adequately fulfilled by the system of exclusive supply now in operation under the arrangement sanctioned by the Act of 1860.

"3. That no Bills for the establishment of a competing supply having been referred to the Committee, the question of providing for the establishment of control by the means of competition does not immediately arise.

"4. That the Committee regard the establishment of a due control, by an amendment of the Act of 1860, upon the system of exclusive supply, as preferable to the future introduction of competing works, and are prepared to settle the present Bill accordingly, if that course be consented to by the parties.

"5. That the extensive powers asked for by the Chartered Company and by the Imperial Company, respectively, in the Bills now before the Committee, are calculated to throw obstacles in the way of future competition, and that the Committee are not prepared to entertain them until the general system of supply shall have been first placed upon a more satisfactory basis.

"6. That the settlement must provide for the improved administration of the system by reduced expenditure; and the Committee think that, by the amalgamation of some of the Companies, and improved arrangements of the districts, that object may be easily attained.

These Resolutions led to the following proposals from the Companies, viz. :—

"The Committee of Chairmen of The Metropolitan Gas Companies having taken into consideration the Resolutions of the Select Committee of the 3rd instant, and the views of the Committee as expressed in explanation, Resolved, that the Companies are prepared to repeat their proposition of 14 candles and 4 *s.* price for common gas. But as they have now a twelve months' experience of the effects of this price, and find they can scarcely maintain under it the Parliamentary dividend, they feel it impossible to adopt any lower rate until the progress of consumption shall enable them to do so consistently with the maintenance of the statutory dividend. That in order to meet the views of the Committee, and evince their readiness to adopt every practicable plan to reduce to their minimum the working expenses, the Committee [*i. e.* of Chairmen] are prepared to effect amalgamations amongst their various companies, and suggest a re-arrangement of the districts of supply, so as to make generally available every source possessed by individual companies, and avoid to the utmost practicable extent the outlay of capital required for increased supply. That the public may be secured in the benefit of any reduction of working expenses thus arising under the provisions of 'The Gas Works Clauses Act, 1847,' the Companies are prepared to recognise the appointment of a public auditor, in the place of the accountants by that Act proposed to be occasionally appointed; so that the extent to which reduction may proceed, consistently with the maintenance of the dividend, and the fairness and accuracy of the Companies' accounts, may be placed beyond dispute."

Upon which your Committee adopted the following Resolutions :—

"1. That the Committee are not satisfied with the offer made on the part of the Companies to supply gas to the Metropolis at the price of 4*s.*, with an illuminating power of 14 candles.

"2. That they are prepared, with the consent of the parties, to insert in the present Bill a price which, after making adequate allowance for reduced expenditure, shall be calculated to yield, with due care and management, a dividend attaining, or at least approaching, the maximum dividend of the Act of 1847, upon the amount of the share capital already expended under the authority of Parliament. In this case they will insert also in the Bill machinery for the periodical revision of the price in conformity with this principle.

"3. Failing the acceptance of these proposals, the Committee will report to the House their opinion that powers for the supply of gas ought to be conceded to the local authorities of the Metropolis."

Upon the receipt of these Resolutions, and in compliance with an invitation from the Committee, the counsel for the Board of Trade communicated with the counsel of the Companies, and eventually proposed an arrangement by which the price of common gas was to be reduced from 1st January 1869 to 3*s.* 9 *d.*, and the illuminating power to be raised from 14 to 16 candles ; with provision for a scheme of amalgamation to be carried into effect under the direction of the Board of Trade. Provision was also to be made for a periodical revision of the price and illuminating power whenever, from the increase of consumption, and the improved administration of the works under the new arrangement, it should be necessary to revise them in order to secure terms which should, from time to time, be fair to the shareholders, and also just to the consumer. The plan included audit of accounts, inspection of works, and periodical arbitration under the control of the Board of Trade.

It was urged by the Metropolitan Board of Works that, as terms of compromise, the price of 3*s.* 9*d.* for 16 candles might be adopted, for three years, after which time the price should fall to 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, subject to an arbitration, in case it should be alleged by the Companies that the cost of coal, wages, &c., had increased in the interval. But your Committee considered that as the price of gas has always hitherto steadily decreased from one interval of time to another, and the annual increase of consumption is considerable, the plan of periodical revision was one which might have been adopted with great mutual advantage

both to the consumer and the Companies. They think that with an amalgamation of the Companies, and an effective supervision, the proposal for an arbitration which should give to the consumer the prospect of reaping periodically the full benefit of improved administration and increased consumption, by a ready means under the control of a public department, is more advantageous to the consumer, as well as more just to the Companies, than the proposal of the Metropolitan Board of Works to enact a fixed price of 3*s.* 6*d.*, after the lapse of three years from 1st January 1869, without any provision for future reduction in price or increase of illuminating power.

Under these circumstances, the propriety of adopting the proposed plan mainly depended upon the question whether your Committee were satisfied with the terms of the clause which was to direct the proceedings of the future arbitrators. It had been explained to the parties that your Committee intended the price to be, from time to time, so calculated as to yield the maximum dividend, if the Companies exercised due care and management, but not to guarantee that dividend irrespectively of such care and management; and the clause was submitted to your Committee by the counsel of the Board of Trade, in the following words; viz.:—

> "(1.) They [*i. e.*, the proposed arbitrators] shall fix such an illuminating power and such a price as shall be calculated to yield to the Company, with due care and management, a dividend in that year (after allowing for the excess or surplus, if any, carried in the then last preceding year to the credit of the divisible profits of the Company) attaining, or at least approaching, the rate of 10*l.* per centum per annum, and to make up any deficiency of their dividend in the then last preceding year authorised by this Act to be made up."

This clause was opposed by the Companies, on the ground that the expression "or at least approaching" was not sufficiently explicit, and did not give them their statutory dividend. The whole clause was also opposed by the counsel for the Metropolitan Board and the City, on the ground that it amounted to a guarantee of that statutory dividend.

Your Committee modified the clause by substituting the words "as near as may be," for "or at least approaching," but they struck out the last sentence, viz., "To make up any deficiency of their dividend in the then last preceding year authorised by this Act to be made up," and the clause, as amended, stood as follows, viz.:—

> "They shall fix such an illuminating power and such a price as shall be calculated to yield to the company, with due care and management, a dividend in that year (after allowing for the excess or surplus, if any, carried in the then last preceding year to the credit of the divisible profits of the Company) attaining, as near as may be, but in no case exceeding, the rate of 10*l.* per centum per annum."

Upon which, the counsel for the Companies dissenting, the further progress of the Bill became impossible.

Your Committee do not recognise as just the construction which the Companies appear to place upon the combined operation of the two Acts of 1847 and 1860. When the Act of 1847 was passed, it was intended for the regulation, not of 13 Companies in London acting upon an exclusive system, but for the regulation of all the Companies which might be established throughout the country, and which in general would be subject not only to the limit of the Act, in respect of dividend, but also to the competition of other Companies in the same districts. When the Act of 1860 was passed, the Metropolitan Companies had not generally attained the limit of 10 per cent.; and the possibility of that limitation being interpreted to convey a right to a "statutory" dividend of 10 per cent., may not have been as clearly understood as from recent experience and discussion is now the case. This view has, however, been very distinctly presented to your Committee in the course of the present inquiry, and while they do not feel themselves at liberty, as they have already said, to interfere with the enactments of 1860 in that respect, without the consent of the Companies, they do feel bound to be careful that they do not strengthen, by any proceeding of their own, what they

they consider to be a departure from the intention with which the limit of 10 per cent. was originally prescribed by Parliament. Substituting, in the case of the Metropolis, effective regulation for that competition which they believe was contemplated by Parliament when the Act of 1847 was passed, they think that justice will be done between the consumer on the one side and those who have invested their capital on the faith of the legislation of 1860 on the other, if in any future arrangement a price be fixed, which will afford to the Companies a reasonable prospect of attaining, from time to time, with due care and management, the maximum dividend of the Act upon the share capital which has been already expended under the authority of Parliament; but that the stimulus to due care and management will be unduly weakened, if they are enabled to make good the deficiency of one year's dividend by the surplus of another.

The reduction of price, under the Bill, as it would have stood if the Companies had accepted the decision of the Committee, would have been, as compared with the prices of the Act of 1860, from 4 *s.* 6*d.* for 12 candles, or 4½ *d.* per candle, to 3 *s.* 9*d.* for 16 candles, or about 2¾ *d.* per candle; if compared with the actual prices now charged by the Companies (excepting the South Metropolitan and Independent), viz., 4*s.* for 14 candles, a reduction from 3½*d.* to 2¾ *d.* nearly. The 3*s.* 9*d.* for 16 candles proposed by the Board of Trade may be considered as nearly equivalent to the 3*s.* 4*d.* charged by the two last-mentioned Companies for 14 candles. Besides this reduction, provision would have been made for improved administration and reduced expenditure by the amalgamation of the Companies, for an efficient audit of the accounts, for an effective supervision of the working and expenditure, for the abolition of the system of back dividends, and for the payment of penalties out of the sum divisible among the shareholders. The advantages to result from these various amendments of the Act of 1860 would have been secured to the consumer by a periodical revision of price, through the agency of arbitrators appointed by the Board of Trade; and the purity of the gas would have been ensured by a system of administration under the superintendence of the same Board. To these advantages your Committee consider that the consumer is entitled; and they recommend that nothing less should be required as the conditions of any settlement which may leave in the hands of the Companies exclusively the future supply of the Metropolis.

Two Private Bills were referred to your Committee, one promoted by the Gas Light and Coke Company, commonly called the "Chartered Company," which provided for the compulsory purchase of land at Barking, in the county of Essex, to the extent of 150 acres, and the raising a new capital of 1,127,500 *l.*; and the other promoted by the Imperial Company, which provided for the compulsory purchase of land in the parishes of West Ham, Hammersmith, and Acton, and the raising a new capital of 1,218,750 *l.*

These two Bills your Committee were prepared to entertain, if the Companies promoting them had agreed to incorporate the conditions which your Committee had adopted as proper to be applied to the Companies generally; but the two Companies declined to do so, and the Bills have accordingly been rejected by your Committee.

The Chartered Company further proposed to write up as capital, henceforward to be entitled to dividend at five per cent., the sum of 360,000 *l.* in respect of sums at various times, during the period of competition, derived from revenue, and applied to purposes of capital expenditure. Your Committee, without hesitation, rejected this proposal.

The Imperial Company represented that, without additional works, such as were provided for by their Bill, they would be, in the winter of 1869–70, unable to fulfil the obligations imposed upon them by the Act of 1860, and would, consequently, be exposed to penalties under the Act, while the consumer would, at the same time, be exposed to inconveniences against which the Act was intended to protect him, by the enactment of those penalties. But the Metropolitan Board of Works, as representing the consumer, opposed the Bill; and your Committee declined to modify what they considered the reasonable terms on which alone they were prepared to entertain the case of the Imperial Company.

In conclusion, therefore, your Committee have now to repeat the expression of their decided opinion, that either by the way of regulation, or by the way

of an independent supply, the consumer is entitled to a far more efficient control than he at present enjoys with respect to the supply of gas to the Metropolis. The difficulty with which your Committee have had to contend, will be found to apply to every general Bill which may be introduced without the concurrence of the Companies, for the regulation of their present monopoly. But it will always be in the power of Parliament to prescribe terms of regulation as each Company comes before it to apply for new powers, and the necessity for new powers has usually brought the Companies to Parliament at no long intervals of time. Your Committee, however, do not think it would be just to the consumer to leave him to the casualties of this mode of remedy, and recommend that, if the Companies decline to submit to general regulations, such as Parliament may consider reasonable, measures should be taken for the introduction of a new supply in independent hands.

It is evident, from the nature of the case, that the possibility of introducing competition in respect of gas is qualified by circumstances which restrain it within even narrower limits than those which apply to other large incorporated undertakings. The difficulty of finding room for mains and service pipes in the already crowded line of the streets, the public inconvenience of frequently disturbing the pavement, the objections usually entertained by the inhabitants of populous districts to the introduction of new gas works, &c.; all are obstacles in addition to those which are connected with the raising of the capital required for so great an undertaking as that of supplying with gas any large portion of the Metropolis.

It seems to your Committee, therefore, that the consumer cannot rely upon the probable introduction of new Companies in competition with the powerful organisation whose existence has been confirmed by the Act of 1860; and that if the consent of the Companies to a proper amendment of that Act cannot be obtained, the proper remedy will be for Parliament to concede to the City of London, the Metropolitan Board of Works, or other local authorities of the respective districts, the power of supplying those districts in the manner in which the Corporation of Manchester supplies that city and the surrounding neighbourhood.

If it shall be urged on the part of the Companies that it would be hard to compel them to compete with a public authority, the sufficient answer, in the judgment of your Committee, will be that they have brought the competition upon themselves by rejecting reasonable terms, and that it would be unjust to the consumer that he should continue subject to monopoly, and not be provided with the safeguard of effective regulation.

Your Committee consider that the main cause of the failure of legislation, which has thus taken place in the present year, has been the absence of any Bills authorising the establishment of an independent supply of gas in the hands of the local authorities. They recommend that unless terms satisfactory for the consumer can be arranged with the Companies, the Board of Trade should abstain from the introduction of any other measure like the Metropolis Gas Bill, 1867. What terms would, in the judgment of your Committee, be satisfactory for the consumer, has already sufficiently appeared in an earlier part of this Report. Unless the Companies are prepared during the recess to consent to such an arrangement, your Committee think that every facility should be afforded to the local authorities of the Metropolis in the Session of 1868, for the introduction of an independent supply.

8 August 1867.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 21st May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. CARDWELL in the Chair.

Mr. J. Hardy	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. Peel (Tamworth)	Mr. Shaw Lefevre.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Counsel:—Mr. Davison, Q.C. and Mr. Reilly.
Agents:—Messrs. Wyatt & Metcalfe.

Petitions against the Bill read:

1. Metropolitan Board of Works.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Grove*, Q.C. and Mr. *Rodwell*, Q.C.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson & Co*
2. Surrey Consumers' Gas Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
3. Phœnix Gas Light and Coke Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
4. South Metropolitan Gas Light Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
5. Equitable Gas Light Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
6. Great Central Gas Consumers' Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
7. London Gas Light Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
8. Western Gas Light Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Michael*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
9. Gas Light and Coke Company.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*
10. Independent Gas Light and Coke Company.
    Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
    Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*

11. Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company.
    Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
    Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*

12. City of London Gas Light and Coke Company.
    Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
    Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*

13. Ratcliff Gas Light Company.
    Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
    Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*

14. Commercial Gas Company.
    Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., Mr. *Burke*, Q.C., and Mr. *Richards*.
    Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*

15. Corporation of the City of London.
    Counsel:—Mr. *O'Malley*, Q.C., Mr. *Webster*, and Mr. *Sargood*.
    Agent:—Mr. *W. Corrie*.

Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill.

Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., and Mr. *Beck*.

Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*

Petitions against the Bill read.

1. North Metropolitan Railway Company.
   Counsel:
   Agents:—Messrs. *Wilson & Co.*

2. Corporation of the City of London.
   Counsel:—Mr. *O'Malley*, Q.C., Mr. *Webster*, and Mr. *Sargood*.
   Agent:—Mr. *W. Corrie*.

3. Commercial Road Trustees.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson & Co.*

4. East London Waterworks Company (on Clauses).
   Counsel:—
   Agent:—Mr. *Bircham*.

5. Victoria Dock Gas Company.
   Counsel:—
   Agent:—Mr. *W. Toogood*.

6. Whitechapel District Board of Works.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson & Co.*

7. Metropolitan Board of Works.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Rodwell*, Q.C., and Mr. *Wilkinson*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson & Co.*

8. Woolwich District Board of Works.
   Counsel:—
   Agent:—Mr. *E. Walmesley*.

9. Trustees of the River Lea.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Marchant & Pead*.

10. Conservators of the River Thames.
    Counsel:—
    Agents:—Messrs. *Wyatt & Metcalfe*.

No Person appeared in support of the following Petitions:—

1. West Ham Local Board of Health.
2. Commissioners of Sewers for the Levels of Havering.

Imperial Gas Bill.

Counsel:—Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q.C., Mr. *Denison*, Q.C., and Mr. *Beck*.

Agents:—Messrs. *Sherwood & Co.*

Petitions against the Bill read:

1. Vestry of the Parish of St. Pancras.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Rodwell*, Q.C., and Mr. *Wilkinson*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson & Co.*
2. Fulham District Board of Works.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson & Co.*
3. Metropolitan Board of Works.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Rodwell*, Q.C.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson & Co.*
4. Regent's Canal Company.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Ellis & Ellis*.
5. East London Waterworks Company.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Bircham & Co.*
6. Vestry of Paddington.
   Counsel:—
   Agent:—Mr. *H. Toogood*.
7. Vestry of Kensington.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Martin & Leslie*.
8. Grand Junction Canal Company.
   Counsel:—
   Agents:—Messrs. *Grahames & Wardlaw*.
9. Trustees of the River Lea.
   Counsel:—Mr. *Pember*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Marchant & Pead*.
10. London and North Western Railway Company.
    Counsel:—
    Agents:—Messrs. *Martin & Leslie*.
11. Conservators of the River Thames.
    Counsel:—
    Agents:—Messrs. *Wyatt & Metcalfe*.

No person appeared in support of the following petitions:

1. Acton District Local Board and others.
2. David M'Intosh.
3. West Ham Local Board of Health.
4. Vestry of St. Marylebone.
5. Commissioners of Sewers for the levels of Havering.

The Committee proceeded with the—

Metropolis Gas Bill.

Mr. *Davison*, Q.C., was heard to open the case in support of the Preamble of the Bill.

The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned till Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 24th May 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

The following Petitions were read:—

1. The Crystal Palace District Gas Consumers.

   Counsel:—Mr. *Venables*, Q.C., and Mr. *Foahes*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Wilkins, Blyth, & Marsland.*

2. The Wandsworth and Putney Gas Light and Coke Company.

   Counsel:—Mr. *Gates*.
   Agents:—Messrs. *Wilkins, Blyth, & Marsland.*

Mr. *Venables*, Q.C., made an application to the Committee that the interests of the Crystal Palace District gas consumers should not be affected by the Bill.

Mr. *Davison*, Q.C., was heard.

The *Chairman* informed the parties that the Committee had determined not to insert any clauses in the Bill affecting their interests without giving them due notice.

Mr. *Grove*, Q.C., and Mr. *O'Malley*, Q.C., proposed that the cases of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and of the Corporation of the City of London, should be taken together.

The following witnesses on behalf of the Metropolitan Board of Works were severally called and examined:—Mr. *Richard Henry Wyatt*, Mr. *Samuel Hughes*, Dr. *Edward Frankland*, and Mr. *George Wilson Stevenson*.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 27th May 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

The following witnesses on behalf of the Corporation of London were severally called and examined:—Mr. *Joseph Heron*, Mr. *C. J. Cleminshaw*, Mr. *John Romans*, Mr. *John Edward Clife*, and Mr. *James Beal*.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 28th May 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Webster* applied to the Committee for an order on the Gas Companies for certain Returns. The Committee directed that the Returns should be made.

Mr. *Robert Bell* was examined.

On behalf of the Gas Companies, Mr. *John Robert Williamson* was examined.

On a question being put as to the probable exhaustion of cannel coal—
Mr. *O'Malley* objected to the question, on the ground that the Committee had determined not to entertain the question of the probable exhaustion of coal.
The Committee deliberated.

Resolved,

Resolved,—That the Committee will not enter into a speculative inquiry as to the probable exhaustion or future price of coal or cannel, but that facts as to actual variation in price will be admitted.

Mr. *John Robert Williamson*, further examined.

Mr. *James M'Kelvey*, Mr. *John Patton*, and Mr. *Alfred Wood*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Friday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Friday, 31*st May* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

On behalf of the Gas Companies, Mr. *William Times* and Mr. *Frederick John Evans* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Monday, 3*rd June* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

On behalf of the Gas Companies, Mr. *Thomas Bush*, Mr. *George Henderson*, Mr. *John Reid*, Mr. *John James Young*, and Mr. *Horatio Brothers*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 4*th June* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

On behalf of the Gas Companies, Mr. *H. Finlay* and Mr. *H. Chubb* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 5*th June* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

On behalf of the Gas Companies, Mr. *Harry Chubb*, Mr. *T. N. Kirkham*, and Mr. *T. Hersey*, were severally examined.

On behalf of the Gas Companies, Mr. *Robert Harris*, Mr. *George Elliott*, Mr. *William Stobart*, Mr. *G. Thomas Halls*, Dr. *William Odling*, Mr. *Alfred Hope Wood* (recalled), and Mr. *William Thomas Sugg*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 6*th June* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

On behalf of the Western Gas Company, Mr. *S. Barber*, Mr. *Lewis William Pritchard*, Mr. *John Rofe*, Mr. *Hugh Bartholomew*, and Mr. *Dugald Campbell*, were severally examined.

Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q. C., applied to the Committee to postpone the further consideration of the Metropolis Gas Bill in order to proceed on Monday the 17th with the Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill, and the Imperial Gas Bill, in consequence of an order of Lord Redesdale that all private Bills should reach the House of Lords not later than the 18th.

The City Remembrancer and Mr. *Rodwell*, Q.C., on behalf of certain Petitioners against the Bills, assented to this course being adopted.

The Committee decided to grant the application.

[Adjourned till Monday the 17th instant, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 17*th June* 1867.

Members all present.

The *Chairman* informed the parties, that although the Committee had consented to hear the opening statement of the Counsel for the Gaslight, &c. Bill, and the Imperial Gas Bill, they did not pledge themselves thereby to go into the whole case, before they had considered the Metropolis Gas Bill.

GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY'S BILL.

Mr. *Hope Scott* was heard to open the case on behalf of the Promoters of the Bill.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved,—That the Committee having heard the opening statement of Counsel on behalf of the Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill, are unanimously of opinion that they will proceed with the consideration of the Metropolis Gas Bill after having first heard the opening of the case on behalf of the Imperial Gas.

Mr. *Denison*, Q. C., applied to the Committee for an adjournment until To-morrow.—The Committee granted the application.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 18*th June* 1867.

Members all present.

IMPERIAL GAS BILL.

Mr. *Denison* was heard to open the case on behalf of the Imperial Gas Bill.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

On behalf of the Gas Companies Mr. *Charles Edward Crawley*, C. E., was examined.

Mr. *Davison*, Q.C., on behalf of the Promoters of the Bill, informed this Committee that the question of the burners having unexpectedly arisen, he should ask leave to call one or two witnesses of experience on that point.

The Committee determined to postpone the consideration of all evidence applicable to the Schedule until the Schedule was regularly before them.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 19th June 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

On behalf of the Gas Companies, Mr. *Robert Baxter* and Mr. *Thomas Hawksley*, C.E., were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 25th June 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Thomas Hawksley* was recalled, and handed in certain Papers.
Mr. *Hope Scott* was heard on behalf of the Gas Companies against the Bill.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 26th June 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Hope Scott* was further heard on behalf of the Gas Companies.
Mr. *Michael* was heard on behalf of the Petition of the Western Gas Company.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 2nd July 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *O'Malley* was heard on behalf of the Metropolitan Board of Works and the Corporation of the City of London.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 3rd July 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *O'Malley* was further heard.

Mr. *Davison* was heard in reply.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Resolved,—1. That the supply of gas in London ought to be controlled in favour of the consumer, either by the means of an effective competition, or, if the system of an exclusive supply be maintained, by the means of effective regulation.

Resolved, 2.—That neither of these conditions is adequately fulfilled by the system of exclusive supply now in operation, under the arrangement sanctioned by the Act of 1860.

Resolved,—3. That no Bills for the establishment of a competing supply having been referred to the Committee, the question of providing for the establishment of control by the means of competition, does not immediately arise.

Resolved,—4. That the Committee regard the establishment of a due control, by an amendment of the Act of 1860, upon the system of exclusive supply, as preferable to the future introduction of competing works; and are prepared to settle the present Bill accordingly, if that course be consented to by the parties.

Resolved,—5. That the extensive powers asked for, by the Chartered Company and by the Imperial Company respectively, in the Bills now before the Committee, are calculated to throw obstacles in the way of future competition, and that the Committee are not prepared to entertain them until the general system of supply shall have been first placed upon a more satisfactory basis.

Resolved,—6. That the settlement must provide for the improved administration of the system by reduced expenditure; and the Committee think, that by the amalgamation of some of the companies, and improved arrangements of the districts, that object may be easily attained.

Parties called in, and informed of the above Resolutions.

Mr. *Davison*, Q. C., on behalf of the Promoters of the Bill, stated that they were desirous of having a full opportunity of considering these Resolutions.

Mr. *Hope Scott*, Q. C., on behalf of the Gas Companies, applied for further information on the question what amalgamation of the companies, and what improved arrangements of districts, the Committee had in view.

The parties were informed that it was not the intention of the Committee to proceed by direct and compulsory legislation, to touch prices already sanctioned by Parliament, in a hostile manner. He also stated that the Committee were of opinion that the present working expenditure might and should be reduced; but that it was for the companies, in the first place, to consider amongst themselves what would be the most convenient mode of attaining that object; and he intimated that, if the Committee received no assistance from the parties, they would not pass any one of the Bills before them, but would report their opinion upon the general subject to Parliament.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 9th July 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Davison* read letters from the Board of Trade, and from Mr. Corrie.

Mr. *O'Malley*, on behalf of the Corporation of London, stated that they were desirous of leaving the question referred to in such letters in the hands of the Committee.

Mr.

Mr. *Hope Scott* was heard, and handed in a Paper containing the propositions by the Gas Companies.

Mr. *Davison* heard thereon.

Mr. *O'Malley*, on behalf of the City of London, stated that they could not accept the propositions of the Gas Companies, and applied to the Committee to proceed no further with the Bill this Session, so that the Corporation might be able to bring in another scheme next year.

Mr. *Grove*, on behalf of the Metropolitan Board of Works, stated that he could not accept the propositions of the Gas Companies.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Resolved,—1. That the Committee are not satisfied with the offer made on the part of the companies, to supply gas to the metropolis at a price of 4*s*. for gas of 14 candle power.

Resolved,—2. That they are prepared, with the consent of the parties, to insert in the present Bill a price which, after making an adequate allowance for reduced expenditure, shall be calculated to yield, with due care and management, a dividend attaining, or at least approaching, the maximum dividend of the Act, of 1847 upon the amount of share capital already expended under the authority of Parliament. In this case they will insert also in the Bill a machinery for the periodical revision of the prices in conformity with the principle.

Resolved,—3. Failing the acceptance of this proposal, the Committee will report to the House their opinion that powers for the supply of gas ought to be conceded to the local authorities of the metropolis.

Parties called in, and informed of the above Resolutions.

Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill.

Mr. *Hope Scott*, on behalf of the promoters of this Bill, was heard; and submitted either that the obligations of the company to supply gas should be relaxed, or that they should have the power granted to them to raise the necessary capital for that purpose.

Mr. *O'Malley* and Mr. *Rodwell* were heard in opposition.

Imperial Gas Bill.

Mr. *Burke* was heard to submit that either the necessary capital for increasing the works should be granted to the Company, or that they should be released from their Parliamentary obligations to supply gas, which they would inevitably be unable to supply if such powers were not granted. He also proposed to call evidence in support of his application.

Mr. *O'Malley*, Q. C., and Mr. *Rodwell*, Q. C., were heard in opposition.

Mr. *Richards* was heard in support of the application of Mr. Burke, and stated that he believed on the 24th of December 1869 the Company would require to send out 4,000,000 cubic feet of gas more than they sent out on the 24th December 1866.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Resolved,—1. That the Committee adhere to the 5th of the Resolutions communicated to the parties on the 3rd of July.

Resolved,—2. That they are prepared to consider proposals for carrying the Chartered and the Imperial Companies respectively over the interval between the present time and the time at which any works which may be sanctioned by Parliament in the Session of 1868 shall come into operation.

Parties called in and informed of the above Resolutions.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Thursday, 11*th July* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Davison* stated that he was unable to place before the Committee any plan for fixing the illuminating power and price to which all parties would agree.

Parties informed that the Committee consider that the Act of 1860, and the arrangement sanctioned by that Act, have been eminently favourable to the Companies, and have not been such as adequately to protect the consumers. That they consider that, in the position in which the Committee is placed, they cannot interfere with that settlement directly without the consent of the parties. They are, on the other hand, quite clear that they ought not by any act of theirs to give any new validity or sanction to that arrangement without an amendment of it in the interest of the consumers. If, therefore, the companies do not make any proposal satisfactory to the Committee, they will report in the sense which they had already stated. They will further report that, in that state of things, they see no remedy for the consumers but the introduction of an independent supply. The Committee see that there would be great difficulties in the introduction of an independent supply by new and rival companies, and they will express their opinion that that independent supply must be furnished by the local authorities of the metropolis.

Mr. *Davison* stated that, whatever price and illuminating power the Committee put into the Bill, the Board of Trade would feel bound to proceed with it.

IMPERIAL GAS BILL.

Mr. *Hope Scott* was heard to address the Committee on behalf of the promoters of the Bill.

Mr. *Rodwell* addressed the Committee.

Mr. *H. Chubb* and Mr. *T. Kirkham* were severally sworn and examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Friday, 12*th July* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Burke* applied for an adjournment of the case until Tuesday next.

Mr. *Davison* was heard in support of the application.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 16th July 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Davison*, on behalf of the Board of Trade, informed the Committee that the Gas Companies had consented that the Board of Trade should propose a price and illuminating power, but that they had not agreed actually on the particular figures. That the Board of Trade proposed that the present price and illuminating power should continue until 1869, and that then the price should be reduced to 3*s.* 9*d.*, and the illuminating power raised to 16 candles for one year or longer according as it succeeds or not.

Mr. *Hope Scott* stated that he was not at present prepared to agree to the above proposals.

Mr. *Webster* informed the Committee that the Corporation of the City of London could not consent to the proposals of the Board of Trade unless they were enforced by the Committee.

Mr. *Grove* stated that the Metropolitan Board of Works could not consent to the alterations proposed by the Board of Trade.

Mr. *Davison* addressed the Committee.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Resolved,—1. That the Committee adhere to the Resolutions communicated to the parties on the 9th of July.

Resolved,—2. That they are prepared to accept, as the initial price and power, the proposals made by the Board of Trade, viz. 3*s.* 9*d.* for 16 candles, from 1 January 1869.

Resolved,—3. That they will require that the provisions for periodical arbitration shall be so framed as to secure that such price only shall, from time to time, be required of the consumer as will be necessary to fulfil the conditions of the 2nd Resolution.

Parties called in and informed of the above Resolutions.

Mr. *Hope Scott* asked the Chairman to explain the bearing of the reference now made by the Committee to the 2nd of the Resolutions of the 9th July.

Parties informed that the Committee intend the price to be so calculated as to yield the maximum dividend if the Companies exercise due care and management, but not to guarantee the dividend irrespectively of such care and management; the question whether such due care and management had been exercised, to be left to the decision of the arbitration appointed.

GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY'S BILL.

Parties informed that the Committee would first ask the Chartered Company if they were prepared to agree to the Resolutions that they had given that morning; that the Committee had already stated that those large powers for taking 150 acres of land down the river, they did not intend to entertain at all, unless a provision should be made with regard to the price and the illuminating power such as they can approve of.

Mr. *Denison* stated that he was authorised to say that his clients were satisfied with the Resolutions.

Parties informed that if the Chartered Company were prepared to deal with the question of the settlement upon the lines laid down by the Committee, they were prepared to go on with their Bill.

The Committee understood that the Chartered Gas Company proceeded with the Bill upon that understanding.

Mr. *Simon Adam Beck*, sworn and examined.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Thursday, 18*th July* 1867.

Members all present.

GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY'S BILL.

Mr. *Frederick John Evans*, Mr. *William Pole*, Mr. *John Aird*, and Mr. *Robert Louis Roumien*, were severally sworn and examined.

Mr. *Denison* stated that his case was closed.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that his case was closed.

Mr. *Rodwell* was heard on behalf of the Board of Trade.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *O'Malley* was heard on behalf of the Corporation of the City of London.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Friday, 19*th July* 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Mr. *Davison* was heard, and read the following heads of arrangement:—

Heads of Arrangement with the Board of Trade. Amended 18th July 1867.

"1. Present prices to be charged by each of the companies until 1st January 1869, subject to the opinion of the Committee as to the continuance of an additional 3*d.* in outlying districts.

"2. The illuminating power, from 1st October 1867 till 1st January 1869, to be not less than 14 candles.

"3. After 1st January 1869, price to be 3*s.* 9*d.*, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained.

"4. The illuminating power, after the 1st January 1869, to be 16 candles.

"5. From 1st January 1870, and so on from year to year, on request, either by the local authority or by the companies, an arbitrator to re-settle the price and illuminating power (to be in no case less favourable to the public than under the Act of 1860) on such a footing as will, on the one hand, secure to the public the lowest price and highest illuminating power, consistent with the payment of the dividends prescribed by the Act of 1847, or any special Acts of the several companies, and will, on the other hand, enable the Companies, with due care and management, to make up such dividends, including penalties charged to dividends, but excluding any sums taken from reserve funds.

"6. If, on any three successive days at any time, or on any 20 or more days in any period of 60 successive days, the gas supplied by a company from any station is of less illuminating power, or of less purity than it ought to be under this Act, the company shall in each case, forfeit a sum of 50*l.* to the Crown, and the same if not paid, shall be deemed a debt due from the company to the Crown, and shall be recoverable accordingly with costs; and such forfeiture shall be borne and paid (to the satisfaction of the auditor appointed as in this Act provided) exclusively by and out of the profits of the company, applicable to the purposes of dividend, and by way of reduction of dividend: provided that such forfeiture shall not be incurred in any case in relation to which it is certified by the chief gas examiner, that the defect of illuminating power or excess of impurity was occasioned by an unavoidable cause or accident.

"7. The

" 7. The arbitrator shall be appointed by the Board of Trade, and his decision shall be given after hearing the companies and the local authorities.

" 8. Forthwith, after the passing of this Act, the companies shall take proceedings to effect an amalgamation, with a view to their being not more than four companies, and shall report the result to the Board of Trade, who may hear any objections and suggest amendments; and if the companies do not adopt such suggestions, the same shall be heard before and determined by the Queen in Council; and the amalgamation so settled shall be final and binding, as if enacted by Parliament. If no amalgamation, &c. be reported within six months, the Board of Trade to appoint three Commissioners to effect amalgamation on the like principle as to number of companies, with full powers to examine books and officers and other necessary and proper powers, and the scheme of the Commissioners to be final and binding, as if enacted by Parliament. Amalgamation shall comprise proper compensation to holders of abolished offices."

Mr. *Davison* informed the Committee that he was prepared to go on with the Clauses of the Bill.

Mr. *Hope Scott* heard.

Mr. *Davison* stated that his clients and the Gas Companies had come to an arrangement on all the points, except four upon which the parties desired to have the decision of the Committee.

" 1stly. As to an additional 3 *d.* for outlying districts.

" 2ndly. As to whether there should be a special price and a special illuminating power fixed for cannel gas.

" 3rdly. As to the number into which the companies should be combined for the purposes of amalgamation, the proposal being four; and,

" 4thly. As to the continuance of the reserve fund, in conjunction with the power of arbitration as to price and dividends. If the Committee would express their views upon those points, the Board of Trade would prepare clauses in accordance with their decision."

Mr. *Denison* stated that his clients did not object to the proposed amalgamation with four Companies, but that they objected to the abolition of the reserve fund, but that they were willing to agree to its reduction to five per cent.

Mr. *Michael* was heard to address the Committee on behalf of the South Metropolitan Gas Company.

Mr. *O'Malley*, on behalf of the Corporation of London, and Mr. *Grove*, on behalf of the Metropolitan Board of Works, were heard.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Resolved,—" That the Committee adopt the principle of arbitration proposed by the Board of Trade.

Resolved,—" That they are unanimously of opinion, that an initial price of 5 *s.* 9 *d.* per 16 candles, with a machinery for securing to the consumer the full benefit of the reduced expenditure, resulting as well from the amalgamation of the companies as from the future supervision of expenditure, is an arrangement which in the interest of the consumer they ought to sanction.

Resolved,—" That the details of the arbitration clauses should be settled, so as to give effect to the intention expressed in the second of the Resolutions communicated to the parties on 9th July."

Parties called in, and informed of the above Resolutions.

The preamble of the Bill was postponed.

Clause 1, *agreed to.*

Clause 2, *postponed.*

Clause 3.—Mr. *O'Malley* was heard against the Clause.

Mr. *Robert Baxter* was examined.

The Clause was *postponed.*

Clauses further considered.

Imperial Gas Bill.

On behalf of the Promoters of the Bill, Mr. *Burke* and Mr. *William Clarke* were severally sworn and examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Half-past Ten o'clock.

Saturday, 20th July 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Clauses of the Bill proceeded with.

Clause 7, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clause 8, *agreed to.*

Clause 9, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clause 10, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clauses 11—19, *agreed to.*

Clause 20, *postponed.*

Clauses 21, 22, and 23, *agreed to.*

Clause 30.—Mr. *Richards* and Mr. *O'Malley* were severally heard against the Clause.—Question, That this Clause stand part of the Bill, put, and *agreed to.*

Clause 31, amended, and *agreed to.*

On Clause 32.—Mr. *Denison* called Dr. *Henry Letheby,* who was examined.—The Clause was *postponed.*

On Clause 33.—Dr. *H. Letheby* was further examined.—Mr. *Richards* proposed an amendment.—Clause *postponed.*

Clauses 34 and 35, *agreed to.*

Clause 36, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clause 37, *agreed to.*

Clause 38, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clauses 39 and 40, *postponed.*

Clauses 41—45, *agreed to.*

Clause 46, *postponed.*

Clause 47, *agreed to.*

Clauses 48—52, *postponed.*

Clause 53, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clauses 54—63, *postponed.*

Clause 64, *agreed to.*

Clause 65, *postponed.*

Clauses 66, 67, and 68, *agreed to.*

Clause 69, *postponed.*

Postponed Clause 46, *agreed to.*

Postponed Clause 20, considered, and further *postponed.*

Postponed Clause 32, *agreed to.*

Postponed Clause 33, *agreed to.*

Postponed Clause 39, amended, and *agreed to.*

Postponed Clause 40.—Dr. *Henry Letheby* was examined.—Clause *agreed to.*

Postponed Clause 48, considered, and further *postponed.*

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 23rd July 1867.

Members all present.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Clause 51.—Mr. *Davison* was heard to propose to leave out paragraph 1 of the Clause and to insert the words: "They shall fix such an illuminating power and such a price as shall be calculated to yield to the company, with due care and management, a dividend in that year (after allowing for the excess or surplus, if any, carried in the then last preceding year to the credit of the divisible profits of the company) attaining, or at least approaching, the rate of 10 *l.* per centum per annum."

Question, That paragraph 1 stand part of the Clause, put, and *negatived.*

Question proposed, That the words proposed be there inserted.

Mr. *Hope Scott,* on behalf of the Gas Companies, was heard to object to the words "attaining or at least approaching."

Mr. *O'Malley* was heard against the objection.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Question, That the words "attaining, or at least approaching," stand part of the proposed amendment, put, and *negatived.*

Amendment proposed, That the words "as near as may be, but in no case exceeding," be inserted instead thereof.—Question, That those words be there inserted, put, and *agreed to.*

Main Question, as amended, *agreed to.*

Amendment proposed, To leave out from the end of the last amendment to the end of the Clause.—Question, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause, put, and *negatived.*—Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Parties called in, and informed of the decision of the Committee.

Mr. *O'Malley* and Mr. *Grove* stated that they could not assent to the omission of the words "at least approaching;" and would prefer the entire rejection of the Bill if those words were omitted.

Mr. *Hope Scott* informed the Committee that in consequence of the Committee having rejected the last part of the Clause, he must withdraw his assent on behalf of the Gas Companies.

The *Chairman* informed the parties that the Committee would report to the House in conformity with the Resolution already communicated to them.

GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY'S BILL.

IMPERIAL GAS BILL.

The Promoters of the above Bills informed the Committee that it was not intended to proceed any further with the same.

Ordered, to Report.

[Committee adjourned till Tuesday next.

Tuesday, 30th July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. CARDWELL in the Chair.

Mr. Goldney. | Mr. Lefevre.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

The Committee deliberated as to their Report.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next.

Tuesday, 6th August 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. CARDWELL in the Chair.

Mr. Goldney. | Mr. Lefevre.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Special Report read the first and second time.

Ordered, to Report; together with the Minutes of Evidence and Appendix.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

Friday, 24*th May* 1867.

	PAGE
Richard Henry Wyatt, Esq.	3
Samuel Hughes, Esq.	5
Dr. Edward Frankland	14
Mr. George Wilson Stevenson	20

Monday, 27*th May* 1867.

Mr. Joseph Heron	33
Mr. C. G. Cleminshaw	42
Mr. John Romans	54
Mr. John Edward Clift	55
Mr. James Beal	60

Tuesday, 28*th May* 1867.

Mr. Robert Bell	72
Mr. John Robert Williamson	74
Mr. James McKelvey	76
Mr. John Birch Paddon	79
Mr. Alfred Wood	84

Friday, 31*st May* 1867.

Mr. William Innes	87
Mr. Frederick John Evans	106

Monday, 3*rd June* 1867.

Mr. Thomas Bush	113
Mr. George Henderson	118
Mr. John Reid	123
Mr. John Young	132
Mr. Horatio Brothers	135

Tuesday, 4*th June* 1867.

Mr. Henry Finlay	143
Mr. Harry Chubb	150

Wednesday, 5*th June* 1867.

	PAGE
Mr. Harry Chubb	161
Mr. Thomas Neesham Kirkham	170
Mr. Thomas Hersey	176
Mr. Robert Harris	177
George Elliott, Esq.	181
Mr. William Stobart	182
Mr. George Thomas Halls	183
Dr. William Odling	187
Mr. Alfred Wood	191
Mr. William Thomas Sugg	191

Thursday, 6*th June* 1867.

Mr. Samuel Barber	195
Mr. Lewis William Pritchard	203
Mr. John Rofe	209
Mr. Hugh Bartholomew	212
Mr. Dugald Campbell	215

Tuesday, 18*th June* 1867.

Mr. Charles Edward Cawley	221

Wednesday, 19*th June* 1867.

Mr. Robert Baxter	229
Mr. Hawksley	238

Friday, 19*th July* 1867.

Robert Baxter, Esq.	274

Saturday, 20*th July* 1867.

Dr. Henry Letheby	277, 281

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Tuesday, 21st May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE E. CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

21 May 1867.

Mr. *Davison* was heard to open the Case on behalf of the Promoters of the Bill.

The room was ordered to be cleared.

After a short time, Counsel and parties were again called in.

The *Chairman* inquired whether Mr. Burke objected to the *locus standi* of the Corporation and the Metropolitan Board of Works, for the purpose of making proposals for filling up the blanks.

Mr. *Burke* replied in the affirmative, and addressed the Committee in support of his objection.

Mr. *O'Malley*, Mr. *Parkes*, and Mr. *Davison*, were heard against the objection taken by Mr. Burke.

Mr. *Burke* was heard in reply.

The Committee deliberated.

The Chairman stated that the Committee were unanimously of opinion that the case of the Metropolitan Board of Works and the Corporation must be heard, and inasmuch as the Committee had not been favoured by the Counsel for the Bill with the particulars of that case, they proposed to hear it from the parties themselves.

[Adjourned till Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 24*th May* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE E. CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. *Venables* applied to the Committee on behalf of the Crystal Palace Gas Company in particular (on whose behalf an appearance had been entered in consequence of a notice received), and the suburban companies in general, to state for their guidance that the suburban companies would not be included in the Bill. 24 May 18

Mr. *Davison* stated, on behalf of his own clients, that he had no objection to his learned friend's clients being discharged from attendance if they thought right to retire.

Mr. *Grove*, on behalf of the Metropolitan Board of Works, stated that he had no instructions at all on the subject; and in answer to a question from the Right Honourable Chairman, he further stated that his clients had no present intention to introduce any clauses that would affect the suburban companies.

Mr. *Gates*, inquired if that intimation applied to his clients, the Wandsworth and Putney Gas Company.

The *Chairman* stated that that company was in the schedule of the original Act.

After a few observations from Mr. Davison referring to his speech of Tuesday last,

Richard Henry Wyatt, Esq., called in; and Examined by Mr. *Davison*.

1. YOU are Agent for the Board of Trade and are conducting this Bill?— Yes. *R. H. Wyatt,*

2. The whole of the negotiations are now printed, I believe?—Yes.

3. The whole of what took place between the Metropolitan Board of Works, the Corporation of London, the Gas Companies, and the Board of Trade?—Yes.

4. The whole of the correspondence?—Yes, that is so, but since the Committee met on the first day there are two letters which are not included in the first evidence, that has since been printed and has been sent to the Committee.

5. From Mr. Beck, and from Sir Stafford Northcote to Mr. Beck?—Yes, and Mr. Farrar.

6. Mr. Beck being the Governor of the Chartered Gas Company, and the Chairman of all the gas companies for this purpose?—I believe he is Chairman of the Chartered Gas Company, and of the committee of the different companies.

7. I opened the other day the contents of the document, which was dictated by Mr. Baxter and written by you, with regard to the terms on which the second reading of the Bill should be allowed?—Yes.

R. H. Wyatt, Esq.

24 May 1867.

8. That is printed, is it not?—I have the original here.

9. That is the paper with the foot note which is initiated by Mr. Paull and Sir Stafford Northcote?—Yes, it had a foot note. It had one or two foot notes. The second foot note is on a separate paper. That is the original document (*handing the same to the Chairman*), and that is what Mr. Denison calls a foot note. That is initiated.

10. That completes the whole matter, so far as the documents are concerned, with regard to the correspondence and negociation?—Yes.

11. Except what took place at personal interviews?—Quite so.

12. Now you were engaged on the Bill of 1860?—Yes.

13. As agent for the Bill?—Yes.

14. That was promoted by the consumers?—Yes.

15. Have you there a book which is published by some of the gas companies?—No, it purports to be published by the General Gas Light, &c. Company, at 11, Bolt Court. It is a reprint. It appears to have been a reprint from the publication of the proceedings of 1860.

16. Have you there the observations?

Mr. *Denison* objected to the evidence.

17. Mr. *Davison.*] I withdraw the book. Were you present when Mr. Sotheron Estcourt made some observations?—Yes.

18. Can you say whether that which is printed in that book tolerably accurately represents what it was?—I believe it to be correct.

Mr. *Denison.*] See what we have come to. "Does the printed book tolerably represent something which took place seven years ago"?

19. Mr. *Davison.*] Can we get at it in any other way?—I think we can.

20. You can get the print of what took place every day in that Committee?—Yes.

[*The Witness handed in the following Paper*:]

"Metropolis Gas—2nd May 1867.—Sir *Stafford Northcote* to state to the House that he proposes to modify the provisions relating to the Gas Works Clauses Act, 1847 (which regulates the profits of gas companies throughout the kingdom), so as not to interfere with the appropriation of profits within the limits defined by that Act: Also to omit the purchasing clauses. That there are other modifications in the Bill upon which he has been in communication with the companies, and the Bill will be referred to a Select Committee for alterations in detail which are referred to in the printed correspondence.

"If Sir Stafford Northcote will make this statement to the House, there will be no opposition to the second reading of the Bill on the part of the gas companies. In making this statement I adhered to the principle that penalties are in some form or other to fall upon the dividends. I do not understand the language of the statement to imply a departure from that.

"*S. H. N.*
"*H. P.*"

Mr. *Davison.*] Will the Committee allow us to supply them with the minutes of what took place at some future time.

The *Chairman.*] Whenever the time comes for any evidence to be produced, if it is not objected to, we shall receive it, and if it is objected to we shall consider the subject.

Mr. *Davison.*] I think we can get that print.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that the Counsel for the City and the Counsel for the Metropolitan Board of Works had agreed, as far as possible, to conduct their case as one case. The learned Counsel stated that he did not propose to trouble the Committee with an opening speech, but reserved the right of summing up as usual at the end.

Mr. *Denison* stated that he would merely wish to know which of the public bodies concerned was to be taken as the actual promoter.

Mr.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that he would not interfere with Mr. Denison in any way, and that the case would be conducted throughout as one case. 24 May 186

Mr. *Denison* suggested that the preamble of the Bill being only an introduction to the Bill, it would be better to postpone the preamble until the clauses had been discussed.

The *Chairman* stated that that seemed to the Committee a very desirable course to pursue.

Mr. *Rodwell* stated that he would endeavour to limit his examination of the next witness as much as possible, but that it might be necessary to extend it to more than one clause.

The learned Counsel further stated that he would direct the attention of the witness to the questions of purity and price.

Samuel Hughes, Esq., called in; and Examined by Mr. *Rodwell*.

S. Hughes, E

21. You are a Civil Engineer?—Yes.

22. Living in Park-street, Westminster?—I have offices there; I do not live there.

23. You have turned you attention especially to gas for the last 15 or 20 years?—Yes.

24. You have been employed and concerned in all the inquiries which have taken place before the different Committees with regard to the metropolis gas?—Yes. I think I have been in all the metropolis gas inquiries since the year 1858.

25. In addition to that, you have had considerable experience with regard to county gas works all over the kingdom?—Yes.

26. Both on behalf of the companies and also on behalf of the opponents?—Just so; more especially for local authorities, corporations, and public bodies.

27. You were examined before the Committee in 1860, and also in the inquiry of 1866?—I was.

28. Without going into the details of the evidence that you gave then, has anything happened, or any circumstance occurred since then, to alter your views at all?—I think not. The circumstances may not be quite the same in every respect as they were in 1860, but they are the same as they were in the year 1866, so far as I am aware.

29. You have, I believe, read over the evidence which you gave in the year 1860 and 1866, with a view to this inquiry?—Yes.

30. That evidence is all referred to this Committee?—I believe so.

31. Have you seen the Bill as now presented to this Committee in its amended form?—I have.

32. That is to say with the blanks filled up; 3 *s.* 6 *d.* for the price, and an illuminating power of 18 sperm candles?—Yes, I have observed that filling up.

33. Now for the purpose of informing yourself with regard to the cost at which gas can be supplied of a certain illuminating power, have you informed yourself of the price of gas at the principal towns and cities in the kingdom?—I have.

34. Now with regard to Birmingham, what is the price of gas at Birmingham per 1,000 feet, and the illuminating power supplied?—The illuminating power by the last Birmingham Act of 1864 is 14 candles, and the prices in Birmingham range from 2 *s.* 3 *d.* to 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, and it may go perhaps to 3 *s.* in certain cases, but I know that the lowest is 2 *s.* 3 *d.*

35. What is it at Blackburn?—3 *s.* 9 *d.* to 4 *s.*, 20 candle gas.

36. What is it at Bradford?—3 *s.* 4 *d.*, 14 candle gas.

37. What is it at Brighton?—3 *s.* 6 *d.*, 14 candle gas.

38. What is it at Derby?—2 *s.* 11 *d.* to 3 *s.* 5 *d.*, 12 candle gas.

39. What is it at Edinburgh?—3 *s.* 9 *d.* to 4 *s.* 7 *d.*, 30 candle gas.

40. What is it at Glasgow?—3 *s.* 7 *d.* to 4 *s.* 2 *d.*, 30 candle gas.

41. What is it at Ipswich?—3 *s.* 9 *d.*, 12 candle gas.

42. What is it at Leicester?—3 *s.* 2 *d.* to 3 *s.* 11½ *d.*, 12 candle gas.

43. What is it at Liverpool?—3 *s.* 2 *d.*, 21 candle gas.

44. What is it at Manchester?—3 *s.* 2 *d.*, 21 candle gas.

 45. What

S. Hughes, Esq.

24 May 1867.

45. What is it at Nottingham?—2 *s.* 8 *d.* to 3 *s.*, 17 candle gas.

46. What is it at Plymouth?—2 *s.* 9 *d.*, 12 candle gas.

47. What is it at Preston?—3 *s.* 4 *d.* to 3 *s.* 9 *d.*, 19 candle gas.

48. What is it at Rochdale?—3 *s.* 3 *d.* to 4 *s.*, 20 candle gas.

49. What is it at Salford?—3 *s.* 4 *d.*, 20 candle gas.

50. What is it at Sheffield?—3 *s.* 6 *d.*, 14 candle gas.

51. What is it at Stockport?—3 *s.* to 4 *s.*, 20 candle gas.

52. What is it at Walsall?—2 *s.* 2 *d.* to 2 *s.* 8 *d.*, 12 or 14 candles gas, I am not quite sure which.

53. The cases of Glasgow and Edinburgh seem exceptional; the illuminating power is far in excess of other towns, and there is a larger charge made; what is the cause of that exception in those two cities?—The raw material used is of a very peculiar quality; it is rich cannel coal; it is what the Scotch call Parratt coal; it makes very superior gas, and costs something more than common coal; there are other towns in Scotland whose illuminating power is probably quite as high, more especially Aberdeen, Dundee, and Greenock; and the illuminating power at Inverness is also very high.

54. But you have selected places where there is a large population?—Yes, where the prices have been absolutely calculated, and are known.

55. You give them as facts?—Those are facts.

56. You have yourself gone very minutely into the cost of producing gas?—I have.

57. Whether the illuminating power be 12, 14, 16, or 18 candles?—Yes.

58. In your examination last year you were asked with regard to the price at which gas could be sold giving an illuminating power of 12 or 14 candles, and a fair dividend of 10 per cent.?—Yes.

59. It is Question 3852. "Q. Are you well acquainted with the manufacture of gas?—A. Yes. Q. The real question I want to ask you is what is your opinion, considering that we are in London, and considering all our advantages and disadvantages, what do you think the companies could sell gas for to the public?—A. You mean gas of 12 or 14 candles. Q. Yes, according to the Act?—A. Do you mean to pay 10 per cent. interest on their capital, or any such rate. Q. If you like you may take it at that; what is really the cost of gas, that is the question after all; what is the cost of gas to the public; what would you produce it for?—A. I should divide the cost of gas to the public into three parts; one applying to the raw material, the second applying to the manufacture, the third to interest on capital; if we add interest on capital, at 10 per cent. on a moderate capital, I think 12 candle gas could be supplied for about 2 *s.* 10 *d.*, made at the most economical rate, and with an economical capital." That was your answer in 1866, was it not?—It was.

60. Do you adhere to the accuracy of that view?—I do.

61. Now, under the same circumstances, at what cost could gas be supplied—18 candle gas?—Comparing with that estimate, I should say that the difference between 2 *s.* 10 *d.* and 3 *s.* 6 *d.* would be just about the difference of cost as between 12 or 14 candle gas and 18 candle gas.

62. You said that in ascertaining the cost of gas to the public, three matters were taken into consideration, namely, the raw material, applying the cost to the manufacture, and the interest on capital?—Yes; I found that to be the safest way of dealing with it.

63. Now go through the figures which have brought you to that result; first, with regard to the cost of raw material?—This is for 18 candle gas. I propose for making 18 candle gas a mixture of Fifeshire cannel and Newcastle coal.

64. In what proportion?—Three tons of Fifeshire cannel coal to seven tons of Newcastle coal; that is to say, three-tenths Fifeshire cannel and seven-tenths of Newcastle coal.

65. Now, what quantity; how many thousand cubic feet of gas would three tons of cannel coal produce?—12,500 feet per ton, 35 candle gas making from the three tons 37,500 feet.

66. Now, how many thousand cubic feet of gas would the Newcastle coal produce?—The Newcastle coal will produce 9,500 feet per ton of 12 candle gas, making from the three tons 66,500 feet. The total yield of the whole ten tons of coal would be the sum of those two, namely, 104,000 feet; the yield per ton would be one-tenth of that, namely, 10,400 feet of 19 candle gas. The

way in which I find the quality of the gas being 19 candle gas is this :—three tons of 35 candle gas are equal to 105 volumes of one candle gas; seven tons of 12 candle gas are equal to 84 volumes of one candle gas. The whole of the ten tons are equal to 189 volumes, which gives me the whole ten volumes of 19 candle gas. Therefore I have a margin of one candle. Then with regard to the cost of making the ten tons into gas, in this case I deal first with the raw material. Three tons of cannel coal at 35 *s.*, being 5 *l.* 5 *s.*, and seven tons of Newcastle coal at 15 *s.* being also 5 *l.* 5 *s.*, making a total of 10 *l.* 10 *s.* for the cost of the coal. Then I deduct the residual product from the three tons of cannel coal, for which I shall get 5 *s.* per ton, namely, 15 *s.*, and seven tons of Newcastle coal at 8 *s.* per ton, which is equal to 2 *l.* 16 *s.*, which makes the total yield of the residual products 3 *l.* 11 *s.* That sum taken from the cost of the raw material, namely, 10 *l.* 10 *s.*, leaves 6 *l.* 19 *s.* for the net cost of the coal and cannel, after deducting the products left in the retorts. Then when divided by 10, it comes to 13 *s.* 9 *d.* per ton for the coal. The produce of one ton is 10,400 feet; from that I take one-eighth for leakage and loss, making 1,300 feet, leaving a net quantity for sale of 9,100 feet for a ton of coal.

67. What does that work out?—That works out with the triple division, into the raw material, manufacture, and interest in this way.

68. Now you have got the net gas from a ton of coal 9,100 cubic feet?—Yes.

Mr. *Denison.*] No human being can follow those figures. Surely you must have a copy which you can give us?

69. Mr. *Rodwell.*] I have not got a copy. (To the *Witness.*) You have got 9,100 cubic feet from a ton of coal?—Yes.

70. Up to that point what has been the cost of the raw material per ton?—The raw material has cost 13 *s.* 9 *d.* per ton.

71. What is that in pence?—It is worked out here per ton; that is for 9,100 cubic feet of gas. I have to divide that by 9·1, to give me this price per ton, which is 1·53 *s.*, or 18·33 *d.*

72. *Chairman.*] Is that per ton, or per 1,000 cubic feet?—I am giving it per 1,000 cubic feet. 1·53 *s.* is equal to 18·33 *d.* Then the next item is the cost of manufacture.

73. Mr. *Rodwell.*] What does that include?—All the working expenses of making the gas, entirely exclusive of the raw material. It includes wages, salaries, and repairs in all parts of the work, renewal and restoration of the works, and every item in the accounts of the companies, in short, exclusive of the raw material and interest on capital.

74. It includes the establishment charges?—Yes.

75. Do you find in your experience that those charges vary very much in different places and in different parts of the kingdom?—They do vary very considerably.

76. How do you account for that?—From the various modes of management; the insertion often in the current expenditure of amounts which should go to capital which are, in fact, extensions of the works and matters of that sort; irregularity in keeping the accounts, and so on.

77. This follows, does it not, that the larger the undertaking the cheaper those establishment charges are on the whole?—There are certain expenses which should be cheaper as the works enlarge, others are more constant.

78. Where an equal quantity of gas can be supplied in a small area, are not the expenses there diminished?—No doubt a concentrated area is cheaper to supply than one spread out.

79. You save in leakage and in repairs?—Yes.

80. What have you allowed for manufacture?—I allow for manufacture and all those expenses 1 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet of gas sold; there is 1 *s.* put in one column and 12 *d.* in the other. The next item is interest on capital, which capital I take at 4 *l.* per ton of coal distilled or carbonised.

81. For every ton of coal burnt, the company should have a capital of 4 *l.*?—Yes, for every ton of coal distilled.

82. How have you arrived at that 4 *l.*?—From an examination of a great many acounts in various towns. In some I found it at a less rate of capital. There is one London company which has capital just over 4 *l.* per ton, and others very greatly exceed that.

S. Hughes, Esq.

24 May 1867.

83. *Chairman.*] What do you mean by 4 *l.* per ton?—Per ton of coal used in a year in their retorts.

84. Mr. *Rodwell.*] From which the gas is made?—Yes, from which the gas is made. I apply it only to that coal, because some companies use the small coal under the retorts. I do not use that.

85. Distilled coal; not coal for making gas?—Just so. Many companies use their coke.

86. If they use their coke, they lose the value of that residual product?—Yes, of course.

87. What do you put the interest on capital at?—The interest on capital I put at 9 per cent.; that 9 per cent. applied to the whole capital is in reality 10 per cent. on the share capital; from an analysis of all the London companies' accounts, I find that, practically, where they are said to pay 10 per cent., the real fact is that paying the full Parliamentary authorised dividend on all their capital, it amounts to just under 9 per cent.; and on some capital which is borrowed they only pay 5 per cent.; and on other capital which Parliament allows them to raise after the works are constructed, they are limited to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., so that the whole of the capital does not bear a rate of interest beyond 10 per cent. The original share capital usually bears interest at 10 per cent., according to the special Act or the legislation of 1860. Applying that interest of capital, I find that it amounts to 8 *s.* or 9·60 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet. The cost in shillings, is 3·33 *s.*, or 3 *s.* 4 *d.*, and in pence, 39·93 *d.* Therefore, I say, that 18 candle gas can be produced and sold in London for 3 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

88. That being your calculation, is there any reason, in your opinion, why the gas should not be supplied by the London companies at the rate which you have mentioned there?—I think that the public are entitled to have it at a rate not exceeding this.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

89. You do not propose to alter the dividend, I see; you think they can pay that?—I do not propose to alter the dividend sanctioned by Parliament applied to a proper capital.

90. "Applied to a proper capital;" that is raising a new point. Do you mean that Parliament should revise the capital of the companies?—Most decidedly. I have always said so since the year 1860.

91. You do not propose to leave that 10 per cent. on the money which the companies actually found in the shape of shares?—Not in the exaggerated form in which the accounts stand at this moment.

92. Do you propose to let the people who have found the money for making those gas works in the shape of shares go on receiving 10 per cent. on it?—I should say no, certainly. If you put it in that general way, I propose that the present capital should not be entitled to 10 per cent. dividend.

93. Now then, we will go on to something else. My learned friend talked about your experience; have you ever managed any gas works or constructed any gas works?—I have not managed any, or constructed any works throughout, but I am about to construct works.

94. In the year 1860 you gave very much the same evidence about the duty of the companies to reduce their price, did you not?—I think I did.

95. And you have told us that you have not altered your views since the year 1860; have you read your evidence?—That is with regard to the year 1866.

96. Does not that apply to the evidence of 1860?—No; I have seen the evidence of 1866 lately.

97. Have you not seen the evidence of 1860?—Not very lately, I think.

98. Did you not in the year 1860, before Mr. Sotheron Estcourt's Committee, give them very much the same calculation as you have given now, and did you not tell them that the companies ought to be made to reduce their price?—I cannot answer that sort of general question.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] If my learned friend has the evidence, he can easily refer to it.

99. Mr. *Denison.*] Do you remember that?—I really do not think that there was much said about reducing the price.

100. Well,

100. Well, then, we can make our speeches on the evidence——

Mr. *Rodwell.*] I think that is hardly fair. If the question is put in that general way, you should direct his attention to the particular answer and question.

Mr. *Denison.*] That I could do without the evidence being referred to the Committee. The object of that is, that you may select from it. Each side has the same opportunity; and, if I do anything unfairly, your party has the last word, and so much the worse for me.

The *Chairman.*] If you put it to me to decide, it does not appear to me that there is anything unfair in asking the witness whether he gave generally this evidence in 1860. You will re-examine him; and you can direct his attention to anything necessary to put him right, if you feel that he has been shaken. I do not think that there is anything unfair at present.

101. Mr. *Denison.*] You can tell me another thing, perhaps, from recollection. Was coal dearer or cheaper in London in 1860 than it is now.—My impression is that, on the whole, it was nearly the same in 1860 as it is now; but in some years the price fell considerably.

102. Do you mean to say that the price of coal now——?—I have a tablehere which gives the prices, and I think that the prices are nearly the same. There are good materials for obtaining the prices of coal, because there are Returns printed by Parliament, at the instance of Mr. Moore and Captain Gridley, showing the prices for some years past, and I have made out a table from those Returns

103. The Return of the 21st February 1866—"Return from every Gas Company," and so on?—That is one of them.

104. What page in the Return do you refer to?—I do not know; I have not got a copy.

105. Here is another copy. This will only give it for one or two years; there is a previous Return of Mr. Moore's. Can you tell me the present price of this coal in London; do you know anything about the tenders at this moment?—I do not see the tenders, of course. I will answer that my abstract is correct. The City of London paid in the year 1861, 16 *s.* 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per ton for coal; the next year they paid 14 *s.* 11 *d.*; the next year 14 *s.* 11 *d.*; the next year 15 *s.* 5 *d.*; and in the year 1865, 15 *s.* 4 *d.* That is a reduction since the year 1860.

106. Mr. *Denison.*] Go on?—I have no further return, therefore I cannot answer.

107. You have no further knowledge on the subject?—No.

108. Do you really mean to say that you have no knowledge of the price of gas coal in London at this moment?—No; I should not like to answer that question, but generally, running down the figures, I find a diminution rather than otherwise. The Ratcliff Gas Company paid 17 *s.* per ton in the year 1861, and in the year 1865 they paid 15 *s.* 8 *d.* The South Metropolitan, about the same period, paid 15 *s.* 3 *d.*, 15 *s.* 6 *d.*, 15 *s.* 2 *d.*, and 15 *s.* 4 *d.*; practically, there is no difference in any of the years. The Chartered Gas Company, as well as I can calculate their coal, considering that they do not give the separate quantities of cannel and other coals, the price was 19 *s.* 9 *d.* per ton in the year 1861, and it fell to 17 *s.* 7 *d.* in the year 1865. I cannot see that there has been any increase, but on the contrary.

109. That only carries up your knowledge to the year 1865; you do not know the price at present?—It only carries it up to the price at which I have the means of making it accurate.

110. But you do not know the price at present?—I do not know the price at present.

111. The object of Captain Gridley's Return was to give a return of every gas company established by Act of Parliament, and the rates that they charge, and so on, was it not?—Yes.

112. You have got a good many places down there; you know that there are many places charging a great deal more than the figures you have given?—Yes, there are a great many places charging more; a great many places are authorised to charge more, for the simple reason that their Bills have not been opposed in Parliament, and they have put in any figure they pleased almost.

S. Hughes, Esq.

24 May 1867.

113. Do you know the amount of dividend that the companies are receiving in those places?—They vary very much; a good many divide 10 per cent.

114. Do you know of any, in your very many companies, who charge more; do you know the rate of dividend to be above 10 per cent. in any case?—I do not know that those who are charging more divide more than 10 per cent., but it often happens that the higher the price the less dividend they make.

115. Will you tell me of any company who charge more, which you believe to be paying 10 per cent.?—No; I think there are few that have Acts of Parliament that pay more than 10 per cent., at all events few that have been in Parliament since "The Gas Clauses Act" was passed.

116. Have you taken the trouble to look at the number of companies that are charging as much or more than we do; I mean Captain Gridley's Return?—No, I have not ascertained that.

117. Do you know anything of the Brighton case?—I do.

118. They were paying 10 per cent., were they not?—I do not know what they were paying before, but their price now is 3 *s.* 6 *d.*; what it was in former years I do not know.

119. All that you know is that they are now charging 3 *s.* 6 *d.*—Yes, they limited to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* for 14-candle gas.

120. And they are dividing, how much?—I do not know.

121 That was before Parliament last year, was it not?—I think so.

122. Was their price reduced?—I believe so.

123. But you do not know about the reduction of dividend consequent on that?—No, I do not know it; and I should hardly take one year as a fair criterion, because the greater number of consumers who may be expected to come on at the reduced price, do not come on at first.

124. Now you say that the raw material costs 13 *s.* 9 *d.* per ton, how does that come out?—That is the cost of a ton of coal after the residual products are deducted.

125. Is that an average ton, taking three-tenths of the Fifeshire cannel coal, and seven-tenths of the Newcastle coal?—Yes, an average ton.

126. Have you any knowledge of what price the companies actually obtain for their residual products?—Yes; I know it very well in London from the returns presented to Parliament every year.

127. Will you tell us what you are estimating the companies as getting for certain residual products?—I am estimating that they get back from Newcastle coal 8 *s.* per ton.

128. In the shape of what products?—They would have 2 *s.* 3 *d.* for a chaldron of coke to sell out of a ton of coal, and a certain amount of tar and ammoniacal liquor, and a little breeze; those would be the chief products; breeze is the small ashes which they sell to brickmakers for making bricks.

129. Does the Fife coal produce as valuable residual products as other coal?—No, nothing like it; in cannel coal I allow only 5 *s.* instead of 8 *s.*

130. How do you get at that 5 *s.* result?—From a comparison of the accounts of the companies who use cannel coal. I believe, at the present moment, that the Western Gas Company, which uses cannel coal, receives about 5 *s.* from each ton.

131. How is that divided?—I can scarcely tell you precisely; there is rather more tar from cannel and less coke.

132. What is the value of the coke in cannel coal?—It is not worth more than 3 *s.*, 4 *s.*, or 5 *s.* per chaldron, whereas the coke in Newcastle coal is worth 9 *s.* or 10 *s.* per chaldron.

133. And the tar?—There is a great deal more tar from cannel coal than there is from Newcastle coal.

134. What is the value of that?—I am scarcely prepared to tell you the value; they are rather minute details, but I should say from 1 *s.* to 1 *s.* 3 *d.*, perhaps more.

135. You know probably that Dr. Letheby, who was examined last year for your people, said that 14 candle gas was as high as it was expedient to go?—He was not examined for the Corporation on that point I think.

136. Who was he called by?—By the Corporation probably; but his opinion was never asked, so far as I know, about the 14 candle gas.

137. You

137. You do not mean to say that he was not asked that question?—I am not certain by which side he was asked the question.

138. You said that you did not agree with him?—I did most decidedly. To say that 14 candle gas is the highest illuminating power London is entitled to, in the face of the fact that a great many towns in Scotland have 30 candle gas, and over 20 all over Lancashire, is extraordinary.

139. Do you not know that Dr. Letheby said that having regard to all the circumstances of the case, 14 candle gas was as high a figure as it was desirable to put in the Bill?—No; I did not understand him to say that. I understood him to say that 14 candle gas was sufficiently good for London. I certainly differ from that opinion entirely.

140. Now, in this long list which you say exists of places charging more, I may take it that whenever an opportunity occurs you are prepared to come and tell Parliament that they should also be reduced to 3 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet?—I have already published a list of all those places where very high prices are charged, showing how extravagant they are, and how disproportionate the price and raw material are in those towns.

141. I ask you whether you, whenever an opportunity occurs, would be prepared to suggest to Parliament that all those places (99 in the return) supplying gas at or about 4 *s.*, should be reduced to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, and made to give 18 candle gas?—I should be prepared to give evidence, if I were employed, that the prices are too high.

142. And that they should be reduced in the way in which you propose that the London price should be reduced?—No, I do not say that exactly—not in that way; but I say that they should be reduced.

143. Here is Dr. Letheby's evidence at Question 1470. "*Chairman,*] I think, perhaps you had better state to what extent you require improvements on each head?—*A.* I have been obliged to come to the conclusion, after a large experience, that London is better without the cannel gas. Fourteen candle gas, I think, is good enough for London. *Q.* You do not recommend cannel gas?—*A.* No, I do not; not only because cannel is so scarce, and has become so much dearer, but because cannel is not, in my judgment, the right kind of gas for London, certainly not for practical purposes; then it is a gas that may be made from Newcastle coal without any cannel, and from Derbyshire Staveley coal. *Q.* That is a hard coal?—*A.* It is a hard coal." And I think there were other passages also.

Mr. *Richards.*] There were one or two others.

144. Mr. *Denison.* About the 4 *l.* per ton, coal distilled. You said that one London company has its capital in that proportion?—Yes; about that proportion.

145. Have any of the others so low a capital as that?—Not quite; the capitals range from 4 *l.* a ton up to nearly 11 *l.* per ton.

146. *Chairman.*] A ton of coal consumed you mean?—The ton of coal distilled into gas on the works.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Michael.*

147. I will ask you a few questions for the Western Gas Company. When you say Fifeshire cannel coal, do you include the whole of the cannel coal which is in Fifeshire?—No; I allude more particularly to the coal spoken of in the evidence given in 1866, by Mr. Romans, who came from Scotland, and who knows those coals thoroughly, and he spoke absolutely to the quantities that would be yielded.

148. How do you divide the coals that are raised in Fifeshire; which are the ones that you especially refer to?—The coals from the Lothian coal-fields I think.

149. Do you know how much of that coal is raised every year now?—I do not know; but the evidence given was that the coal was in very great abundance, and would be raised for a great many years; that it was far more than equal to the supply.

150. Have you formed any approximate idea with regard to the total quantity

S. Hughes, Esq.

24 May 1867.

of coal in Fifeshire?—I have not, but I have seen recent reports of geologists on the subject; the evidence is very conflicting. In addition to that, I may say there are several patents now before the public for using very inferior materials, for making the richest cannel gas that can be got. I am speaking of that as a sort of set-off against what some people speak of as to the probable exhaustion of cannel coal; those materials are shale oils, bitumens, and matters of that kind, which are very cheap and can be used with great success with a mixture of small waste coal. The experiments which I have seen are highly satisfactory, and the gas which they sometimes produce is of a very high quality, equal to any cannel gas that has been spoken of here.

151. But do you know anything of the total quantity of cannel coal in the Fifeshire coal-field?—No; if you ask me in precise terms the amount of tonnage I cannot tell you.

152. Have you formed any idea on that point?—There is a quantity that will last for a great many years.

153. For how many years?

Chairman.] We shall never come to an end if we go into the question of the probable exhaustion of cannel coal.

153*. Mr. *Michael.*] Supposing your project were adopted of having three tons of cannel coal to seven ordinary tons of Newcastle coal, how much cannel coal would be required for all the gas companies in London?—If you tell me the tonnage at present used I can tell you at once, otherwise it would take me some time to calculate.

154. How many tons of Fifeshire cannel coal would be required to carry out your project of 18 candle gas?—It is an involved question, because cannel gas is very much richer than common gas, and very much less would be required. It would not do merely to find out the present number of tons used in London and then take that as a basis.

155. Is not that your basis of calculation?—It would take me some time to answer that question.

156. You come here with a scheme for a certain kind of gas to be made in a certain way; now tell me how much cannel would be required for that scheme?—You know the amount of the coal used in London more exactly than I do.

157. Have you formed any idea of the quantity of coal that would be used?—No, because I know perfectly well that the quantity will not be anything very extravagant.

158. Would it not be three-tenths of the total quantity?—About 1,000,000 tons of coal is the quantity used in London for making gas at this time. I had forgotten it.

159. May I take it that 300,000 tons of cannel would be required?—Yes; it would be as three to seven. No, I do not think so, because cannel gas would be 18 illuminating power, instead of 13 illuminating power, and therefore it would be about 200,000 tons, I should say, of cannel coal.

160. Working that out, do you still get 18 candle gas over that quantity for the present supply. Have you not proceeded on the basis that three-tenths must be cannel?—Yes; but if you get 18 candle gas supplied all over London, you will not require anything like the same quantity of gas.

161. Is that 200,000 tons then?—I object to go into close calculations while I am sitting here in the chair; but I should say between 200,000 tons and 250,000 tons.

162. What is your estimate of the increase in the next few years for gas supplied to London?—I have no hesitation in saying, if the supply were properly conducted on liberal terms, the public consumption would be doubled in 10 years.

163. It would require half a million tons of cannel coal at the end of 10 years, you think?—Possibly.

164. Do you know the prices now charged for the Lancashire coal?—I know the prices paid by the Western Company up to the last return; but in Captain Gridley's return they make no mention of that. They leave their price blank. I am sure that I know of a higher price in London than 25 *s.* per ton.

165. Any

165. Any increase over that 25 *s.* per ton would disturb your calculation, would it not?—No, it would not.

166. Whether the material for your gas is cheap or dear, then, it makes no difference to you?—You are speaking of the Lancashire cannel coal, which is a very inferior material to the Scotch cannel coal.

167. You say that you know the prices the Western Company pay. What are the coals which the Western Company use; are they not Lancashire cannel?—I believe it is Lancashire cannel, or so-called Lancashire cannel. There is a great deal of mixed coal in Lancashire, and there is a great deal of cannel coal that will not make the best gas. There are only one or two seams that will make far higher than 18 candle gas.

168. Are you aware that the price of cannel gas is continuously increasing?—I am not aware of that.

168*. It is not the case, you think?—I do not think so.

169. You base your calculation on the fact that it is the same price as it was two years ago?—No; I base my calculation on the present price of the Lothian and Fifeshire coals which come from Scotland, with no reference to the Lancashire cannel.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

170. If Dr. Letheby has stated that he does not think it desirable to light London with cannel coal, you differ from him entirely?—I do entirely.

171. You have said that if the illuminating power of gas is increased, there would be less consumption of gas, that is to say, that the parties would use less gas?—There is no question about it.

172. It is a question of light?—Yes, it is a question of the amount of light that London wants, with no reference to the quantity of gas required.

173. If you have an illuminating power of 18 candle gas, a person does not need to turn his gas on so high to get the necessary light?—No; the fact is that the whole system of gas supply, as far as the consumers are concerned, would have to be altered for 18 candle gas; it would be very injudicious to use the present burner, the burners would have to be changed.

174. There are published returns by those companies appended to the report of 1866, and I find that the Western Company give the price for coal; have you seen those returns?—Yes, but I did not understand the prices given in that return.

175. But what the coal costs them is given in that return?—Yes, the total sum paid for coal; but it does not enable you to get at the price per ton, because they do not give you the tonnage.

176. They know it themselves, do they not?—Yes, they know it themselves.

177. But you think that you have fixed a fair price?—Yes.

178. You agree with many other gentlemen who have gone into this question, that, for many years to come, there is a supply of cannel coal for gas purposes?—Yes, and common coal too.

179. There was a contrary theory started at one time, which caused an investigation?—Yes, there was a theory started by an alarmist; one geologist confirmed it, and another geologist wrote a book about it containing a contrary opinion; that there were many inexhaustible fields of coal scarcely touched at the present time—coal, for instance, under the new red sandstone.

Chairman.] We cannot go into that collateral inquiry.

179*. Mr. *Rodwell.*] With regard to coke. If the price of coal is higher, the price of coke is higher, is it not?—Generally it is so.

180. You can fix pretty safely on the value of coke when you have got the price of coal?—Yes; I based it on a greater certainty still, because we have the published accounts of the companies giving the price they pay for the coal and the price which they receive for residual products.

181. I believe that the Committee have got a copy of the inquiry of 1866. You will find there a table of the accounts and a table of the residual products?—Yes.

S. Hughes, Esq.

24 May 1867.

182. You gave us this evidence with regard to the value of the residual products, after having looked at those tables?—Yes; that evidence is based on a certainty; it is based upon what they receive, many of them, at present.

183. You wished to complete an answer to my learned friend Mr. Davison; did you mean, in that answer, that although the price might be higher, in many cases there was a lower dividend?—In many cases where high prices prevail it is really a restriction to the use of the gas. In the original gas works the prices were 15 *s.* and 17 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet of gas; no company could stand that, and after paying a dividend they were almost ruined till they found out their true policy; they reduced the price, and the moment they reduced the price they realised a dividend; there were never higher dividends than there have been lately, when the prices have been lowered. When the prices were 4 *s.* and 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, the companies were all paying 10 per cent.; it seems often a natural consequence that the low price of gas produces high dividends, and the high price of gas produces low dividends.

184. You were asked whether, in this calculation, you had assumed that you would not give 10 per cent. on the whole of the capital, and you say, no?—I say no, not on the whole of the capital.

185. Do you wish to qualify that answer?—Yes, because I found it impossible to apply any reasonable rule that would satisfy any such exorbitant dividends as they have. I find the amount they must add to their net cost to pay that dividend ranges from 10 *d.* in a 1,000 feet in one case to 2 *s.* 6 *d.* in another. They must add that to the actual cost of production in order to pay the dividend allowed by the law on their capital; because, in allowing this dividend, the capital has not been taken into consideration. Parliament seems to have been satisfied with fixing a given rate, without considering the capital.

186. In some cases it would work out much higher than 9 per cent. when the capital was small, would it not?—Yes, it would work out to more than 9 per cent or 10 per cent., or 12 and 13 per cent. in some cases.

187. In addition to the advantages of cannel coal as to light, do you agree with Mr. Clemenshaw that if it is self-evident that the smaller the quantity of gas consumed the less would be the heat and noxious vapour produced; and it is necessarily advisable to use the coal which would give the greatest possible light?—Yes, that is one of the greatest arguments for using a rich gas in a place like London.

188. There is another advantage also, there is greater purity in gas from cannel coal, is there not?—Yes, of course; less injurious products escape, and there is less heat in the apartment, and less injury to ventilation. I find here that whereas the Independent Company require $10\frac{1}{2}$ to pay the dividend, the Western Company require more than 26 *d.*, the Equitable Company 23 *d.*, and so on; those enormous variations are in consequence of the anomalies of their capital.

[The Witness withdrew.

Dr. *Edward Frankland*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Grove*.

Dr. *E. Frankland*.

189. You are Professor of Chemistry at the Royal Institution?—Yes.

190. You have devoted your whole life to chemistry and chemical subjects?—Yes.

191. Have you paid particular attention to the question of supply of gas, its purity, and so on?—Yes, I have a good deal to do with the question for the last 20 years, both in Manchester and in London.

192. You have not been merely practically consulted, but you have lectured on the subject?—Yes, I have had opportunities of making experiments on a manufacturing skill in gas works.

193. You have seen the 28th clause of the Bill now before the Committee; what is your opinion with regard to the illuminating power and the price at which gas should be supplied; in other words, how should the blanks be filled up?—I would fill up the blanks with regard to illuminating power with 18 candle gas, and the price delivered to the consumer, 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

194. What are the modes of calculation by which you arrive at those conclusions?—I have taken three modes of calculation. We will call the first No. 1. One ton of Newcastle coal gives 10,000 cubic feet of 15 candle gas, that is, 15 candle

candle gas measured by the new burner, not by the burner contemplated by the last Act of Parliament.

195. But is it the burner that is contemplated in this Bill?—It is described in the schedule. To convert this into 18 candle gas by a process of simple admixture, 7,500 cubic feet of Wigan cannel gas would be necessary; that would be four volumes of 15 candle gas, plus three volumes of 22 candle gas, giving seven volumes of 18 candle gas. Now, 7,500 feet of cannel gas requires 13·6 cwt. of Wigan cannel coal. Further than that, one ton of Newcastle coal costs, according to the average paid in the year 1864 by the Metropolis Gas Companies, 15 *s.* 3¼ *d.*, and yields 10,000 feet of gas; 13·6 cwt. of Wigan cannel coal, at 25 *s.* per ton (which, I think, is a very ample estimate for the price of delivery to the companies in London), costs 17 *s.*, and yields 7,500 cubic feet of 22 candle gas; therefore, 7,500 cubic feet of 18 candle gas costs in material 1 *l.* 12 *s.* 3¼ *d.*, or 1,000 cubic feet of 18 candle gas costs 1 *s.* 10 *d.*; add to that salaries, wear and tear, distribution, &c., as contained in Mr. Moore's return, page 309 of the London Corporation Gas Bill Report. That comes to 1 *s.* 5½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet. I may say that I have taken that as the lowest. I regard those charges as very heavy indeed in the metropolis gas companies, and therefore I take the lowest, and not the average, that is to say, the expense in the Equitable Company; that makes the gross amount 3 *s.* 3½ *d.* From that is to be deducted the receipt from the sale of the residual products. First of all, there would be two-thirds of a chaldron of Newcastle coke for sale, after leaving one-third for fuel for the retorts; that is worth 7 *s.* 4 *d.*; the two-thirds of a chaldron of Wigan coal, which is the proper quality, is 6 *s.*, making together 13 *s.* 4 *d.*; then tar and ammoniacal liquor, 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, which I get from those returns in the Appendix, making together, for the 17,500 cubic feet of gas, 16 *s.* 10 *d.*, as the produce of the sale of the residual material, or per 1,000 cubic feet 11½ *d.*, making the price of the gas delivered to the consumer, 2 *s.* 4 *d.*; but there must be added to this the loss from leakage, which I estimate at 12½ per cent. on the gas leaving the works. That would amount to 4¼ *d.*, to be added to the amount last given, which gives a total of 2 *s.* 8¼ *d.* as the cost of the gas to the company, delivered at the consumer's burner. Therefore, the net profit on each 1,000 cubic feet of gas would be 9¾ *d.*; giving a dividend of 6·6 *l.* as the capital for each ton. That is the average of all the companies, taking all their capital, original as well as subsequent. Now, that is equal to 6 *l.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.* per cent. In the second mode of estimation I take the gross cost of the gas the same as in No. 1, that is to say, 3 *s.* 3½ *d.* per 1,000 feet; then I deduct the residual products from one ton, 13·6 of coal and cannel, which, according to Mr. Moore's return, give residual products worth 8·11 *s.* per ton. This would amount to 13 *s.* 7*d.* on that quantity of coal and cannel coal, or per 1,000 cubic feet 9¼ *d.* This would bring the price of the gas to 2 *s.* 6¼ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, to which 4½ *d.* must be added for leakage; making the cost 2 *s.* 10¾ *d.*

196-7. *Chairman.*] You said, in the former case, 4¼*d.*, I thought?—Yes, but the price here is a little higher, because those residual products are not so much. Now both those calculations are founded on the assumption that the two gas esare made separately, that is to say, the Newcastle coal gas and the Wigan cannel gas, and that they are afterwards mixed together in the gasholder; but this is a process that no company, I believe, would carry out; it is a very crude kind of process to carry out. The plan is to pass the coal gas, that is to say, the gas of a lower quality, or a portion of it, through the cannel gas retorts whilst the cannel gas is being made. By that process you save more than 33 per cent. of light; you get 33 per cent. more light from the cannel coal. I give this separate from the other calculations, inasmuch as it is somewhat theoretical in character, and it may be disputed. The process as here contemplated is by no means carried out to the extent that it might be, neither are the benefits derived so great, I believe, as they would be. No. 3 I estimate upon the process of mixing the gases in the retorts, one ton of Wigan cannel coal gives——

198. Mr. *Grove.*] What would be the reason of the difference in the result, supposing you mixed the coal, compared to the result when the coal is used separately?—The reason is this; when you are generating in a retort gas of a high illuminating power, that is to say, gas containing a large per-centage of the hydro-carbons, you must have a retort at a bright cherry-red heat; and then

Dr. *E. Frankland.*

24 May 1867.

all the gas in contact with the walls of the retorts is being rapidly decomposed so long as it remains in the retort. Every second, a certain amount of the illuminating constituents are being decomposed, and what is deposited on the inside of the retort is the result of decomposition of those luminiferous products. Now, if a stream of common coal gas pass through, then the cannel gas is rapidly swept out, and thereby removed from the destructive influence of those red-hot sides; and you would then save about 33 per cent. in the case of the Wigan cannel coal, as I have proved by direct experiment.

199. Now will you go to the experiment. Supposing those gases were mixed in the retorts?—Yes. One ton of Wigan cannel coal gives when distilled in this way, along with 3·7 tons of Newcastle coal, 48,000 cubic feet of gas of 18 candle gas illuminating power; therefore the cost of 1,000 cubic feet of gas upon this method would be 1*s.* 8*d.*, to which must be added the items in the other estimate for salaries, wear and tear, and so on, making together 3*s.* 1½*d.*; deduct residual products as in No. 2 (which is the worst form of estimate with regard to the price of production), 9¼*d.*, making the price of the gas 2*s.* 4¼*d.*, to which again 4¼*d.* would have to be added for leakage; making together 2*s.* 8½*d.*

200. That would leave a profit of what, upon 1,000 feet?—That would have to be deducted from 3*s.* 6*d.*; that would be 9½*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

201. Have you made any calculation derived from what you have seen in actual practice or experiment with regard to the comparative cost of the light from cannel coal and from Newcastle coal?—I have; and I have arrived at the result that the cost of light in equal quantity from the Wigan cannel coal, or from the Newcastle coal, is almost identical, but not exactly the same in London. And these are my data. One ton of Wigan cannel coal gives gas which, when burnt at the rate of five cubic feet per hour, produces a light equal to 4,840 sperm candles, each burning 120 grains per hour, and burning for ten hours. One ton of Newcastle coal gives a gas which, burnt under the same circumstances, produces a light equal to 3,000 sperm candles; and hence the light per 1,000 candles from the Wigan cannel coal is equal to 5·16*s.*; the price per 1,000 candles from the Newcastle coal is equal to 5·08*s.* But if depreciation of coke at 2*s.* per chaldron be added to the price of the coal, which would make it 27*s.* per ton, then the price becomes 5·58*s.*; but the cost of purification and distribution of the light of 1,000 candles, when obtained from the Wigan cannel coal, would be reduced in the proportion of 22 to 15, because what you distribute is light and not gas. It is no use sending 1,000 cubic feet of gas through the mains if you produce a few candle lights from it. Whereas, if you give rich gas, producing 18 or 20 candle light, then you obviously send a very much larger amount of light through the same mains. Therefore, the figure would be reduced by 6*d.* per 1,000 candles, which would bring the cost of 1,000 candles from the Wigan cannel to 5·08*s.*, which is exactly the cost of the same amount of light from the Newcastle coal.

202. Now, is there any difference with regard to the production of gas from rich coal, such as cannel coal, or from the Newcastle coal?—With regard to going a considerable distance, the further the locality where the coal is to be used is from the coal-field, the greater is the advantage in using rich coal, or cannel coal.

203. Have you made any calculation on that basis, of the less amount of expense for carriage, if the coal gives you a greater amount of gas per ton?—Inasmuch as the carriage is founded on the weight of the material, the following calculation supplies that to a great extent. In one ton of Newcastle coal you get 3,000 sperm candles, and in one ton of Wigan cannel coal you get 4,840 sperm candles; in one ton of Neat Hill cannel coal, which is Scotch, you get 5,315 sperm candles; in one ton of Newcastle cannel coal you get 5,047 sperm candles; in one ton of Lismahagow you get 8,496 sperm candles; and in one ton of Boghead coal you get 13,928 sperm candles; consequently those rich cannel coals will bear much heavier carriage than the poorer Newcastle coals.

204. *Chairman.*] In making your estimate, I presume you have calculated each coal at what it costs the company in London?—Yes, the previous estimates.

205. Carriage included?—Carriage included, and delivery in the works.

206. Mr. *Grove.*] As to the effect of noxious gases, or gases which are not used up, so to speak, in the combustion, is it better for that purpose, or is there

there a less proportion of them according as you employ a better class of coal?—Certainly, if you want a light of 20 sperm candles it is far preferable that you should get that light from an 18 or 20 candle gas than from a 12 candle gas; because all the impurities of combustion, and so on, which you have during the combustion of the 12 candle gas, must of necessity be very much greater than during the combustion of the 20 candle gas, if you get the same light from both, inasmuch as you have to use much more of the poorer gas. In that way the inhabitants of Edinburgh, for instance, at the present time get a certain amount of light with one half the heat and general deterioration to the atmosphere of their rooms, and with a still much smaller proportion of deterioration as regards the sulphur compounds present in those gases.

207. Would that enable the gas of this better quality which gives more light for a smaller proportion of actual gaseous product to be introduced into smaller rooms, where the ordinary gas would be unwholesome?—Undoubtedly. As a consumer of gas for seven years in Manchester, and since then for nine years in London, I have had the opportunity of comparing the comfort with which one can burn the two gases in a drawing-room, and certainly the difference is most striking between the combustion of gas in London and the state of the atmosphere there, as compared with what it is in other places where the gas supplied is purer.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

208. On what information do you found the statement that the cannel coal is less impure than the Newcastle coal?—I never made that statement.

209. I understood you to make it just now?—No.

210. Will you just state again what you said about the impurity of the two coals?—I spoke of impurities generated by the combustion of the gases, and not of the coals themselves.

211. Do you know what the fact is upon the subject. Has the cannel coal more or less impurities than the Newcastle coal?—My experience of the gases, made from Wigan cannel on the one hand, and from the Newcastle coal on the other, leads me to believe that the impurity in the gas from the Newcastle coal is considerably greater than in the gas from the Wigan cannel.

212. But which coal costs most to the company to purify?—I am not aware that they do purify the coal at all. I have heard of their sometimes picking out pieces of pyrites from it.

213. I mean in the result. Of course I know that they do not purify the coal itself. Do you know which has most sulphur?—You must specify some particular cannel, because they vary very much.

214. I take the Wigan cannel, upon which you ground your evidence chiefly?—The Wigan cannel as a rule, I should say, contains considerably less sulphur than the Newcastle coal.

215. Does the Lesmahago coal contain sulphur?—That contains rather a large proportion of sulphur; probably more per ton than the Newcastle coal.

216. Now I must ask you a similar question to that which I asked Mr. Hughes. You have made experiments upon these things?—Yes.

217. But you have never had in any case the conduct of any gas works, have you?—Certainly not.

218. You have not superintended them in any way?—No; I have only superintended those experiments, and not the works at all.

219. In fact, do you know whether any company in England does manage to get 10,000 feet of 15 candle gas out of a ton of Newcastle coal?—I think that there can be very little doubt about it.

220. But I should like to know whether you know the fact. You, scientific men, you know, are always confident?—I take the illuminating power by those burners of the gas produced by London companies who do not use any cannel. I am quite aware that the illuminating power is in some cases not so high as it ought to be, because the quantity of gas produced is probably greater than that which I have mentioned.

221. But as a matter of fact, do you know any company burning the Newcastle coal only, and getting;—— I need not read the figures again?—The Great Central, I believe, as appears from this return, use no cannel. They pay at all

Dr. *E. Frankland.*

24 May 1867.

events for their coal 14 *s.* 10½ *d.* per ton, and there is no cannel mentioned here. Now, I find from Dr. Letheby's return of the gas supplied by this company in the City (which is contained somewhere in this Appendix, but I could not find it so readily), that the maximum illuminating power which they get out of this coal, and they have got it on many occasions, is 16·71 candles.

222. But how does that prove that they get 10,000 feet of that gas out of a ton?—That I cannot possibly prove; I can only prove the quality of the gas which I have got myself out of it.

223. In fact, all this evidence of yours is founded upon experiments of your own, I understand?—Certainly not; the greater part of it is founded upon the experiments of Mr. Moore.

224. But those experiments are, of course, on a very small scale compared with what the companies do?—Of course they were made with one retort only.

225. And this also is to be taken into account; the gas must generally be supplied, to be safe, a good deal above the number of candles specified in the Act of Parliament, must it not?—If it is supplied higher, they will get a higher price for it.

226. That may or may not be, according to the mode of testing; but that is so, is it not?—Yes.

227. If a certain amount of gas is required, in order to be safe, they must make it at the works considerably higher than the power required?—If they are to be fined for going below a certain amount of illuminating power, then I should think it would be probably necessary for them to keep up to about a candle beyond.

228. Does the illuminating power diminish at all with distance?—Yes, it does sometimes.

229. I should like you to tell us how much?—It is impossible to say how much for every case, because it depends upon the way in which the mains are laid and the workmanship of putting together the pipes, and also upon the quality of the pipes themselves. The leakage is due to the diffusion of the gas through those pipes and the introduction of a small amount of atmospheric air in the opposite direction into the pipe, and that causes a slight deterioration in the quality of the gas; but I cannot say that I have made any experiments myself upon that subject. There is very great difference of opinion as to its amount, or even as to its extent amongst gas engineers.

230. But, as far as your opinion goes, you do not think there is that difference?—I think there is some little difference; I will not say how much; but I think it is appreciable.

231. Was I right in saying that your first result and the others did not differ materially. Did they give a dividend of 6 *l.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.* upon the capital, which is estimated to be 6 *l.* 6 *s.* per ton of coal consumed?—Yes.

232. Then this, I suppose, follows, that wherever companies have, by reason of the cost of their works, a capital higher than the 6 *l.* 6 *s.* per ton, they would get out of your figures a dividend lower than 6 *l.* 3 *s.*?—I suppose that must necessarily follow.

233-4. And if it was much higher, than the dividend of course would be very much lower?—Yes, this is the average of the whole of the companies.

Re-examined by Mr. *Grove.*

235-6. How do you get that figure of 6 *l.* 6 *s.*?—I get it from Mr. Moore's return, or, at least, from one of those returns.

237. Mr. *Denison.*] That is the average, is it?—That is the average upon the capital of all the metropolitan companies. Here it is: "Capital per ton of coal—Chartered, 5·58 *l.*; City of London, 7·18 *l.*; Commercial, 5·19 *l.*; Equitable, 8·55 *l.*; Great Central, 5·76 *l.*; Imperial, 6·82 *l.*; Independent, 4·41 *l.*," and so on, making, in the average, 6·60 *l.*

238. *Chairman.*] That includes the borrowed capital, as well as the share capital?—I understand that it includes all forms of capital. It is a total capital of 5,647,901 *l.*

239. You have taken the capital, you say, from the return which you hold in your hand?—I have.

240. And

240. And you have estimated it, upon the average, to amount to 6 *l.* 6*s.* upon each ton of distilled coal?—Yes.

241. Does that return show only the share capital, or the aggregate share and borrowed capital of each company?—I am afraid I cannot answer that question, as I am dependant upon this table for information; and this table says: "The capital represented by each ton of coal;" I presumed that it was both, but I did not investigate that point.

242. That is the capital requisite to work the coal?—The capital actually employed.

243-4. Whether borrowed or the property of the Company?— So I understood it.

Mr. *Grove* stated that he was instructed that those figures included both the borrowed and the share capital.

245. Mr. *Grove* (to the *Witness*).] You answered the general question that the illuminating power of the gas decreases with the distance; is there any specific decrease with the distance other than what may be occasioned by leakage?—Certainly not.

246. Of course then the amount of decrease must be dependent, so to speak, or must be in the ratio with the imperfection of the tubing?—Quite so. There is occasionally a decrease owing to another cause which ought not to exist. If the gas is sent warm into the mains, there is a condensation of hydro-carbons, naphtha, and so on; that is a defect.

247. Then, in point of fact, the decrease would not be a quantity easily reduced to an estimate, because it would depend upon the state of the gas-pipes and stop-cocks?—Yes, certainly. It differs in the mains of the different companies, and, in some cases, it makes a very considerable loss; in fact, I have had to allow here 12½ per cent. for the leakage. It is not the leakage of the gas which occasions the diminution of illuminating power, but the admission of atmospheric air by diffusion in the opposite direction, for, wherever the gas goes out, air must come in in the place of it; you must have air passing in if you have gas passing out, according to the law of diffusion.

248. Where would be the points where neglect would be of importance in increasing leakage?—I think the joints are the most important parts, because the pipes are generally well tested by hydraulic pressure previous to use.

249. Therefore, if the pipes were well attended to, would that diminution become insignificant?—I think it would.

250. You gave my learned friend some instances of the illuminating power o. Newcastle coals, and that you got the quantity of cubic feet by your own experiments?—Yes.

251. Were those experiments made in your laboratory, or were they made at gasworks upon the ordinary scale of the gas distribution?—They were made at gasworks, and on the ordinay scale of making gas.

252. My learned friend asked you subsequently a question as to the purification of coal. The purification I infer is after the gas has been eliminated by heat from the coal; it then passes through certain ingredients which carry away the sulphuretted hydrogen and ammonia and other matters?—Yes, precisely.

253. You use the coal in its native state, and you then apply heat; and in the course of the passage from the retort where the gas is generated by heat to the gas meter where it is stored for consumption, it is purified?—It is.

254. Were the calculations which you gave me in your examination-in-chief, when you spoke of the question of purity and illuminating power, founded upon the gas thus purified, or assumed to be purified?—Certainly they were.

255. Mr. *Michael* (through the *Committee*).] I understand you to say that any deposition of hydro-carbons in the pipes could arise solely from the heat of the gas admitted into those pipes?—It could only arise from the admission of the gas at a higher temperature than the temperature of the mains themselves.

256. Can you tell me through what length of mains it would be necessary that that gas should pass before it came to the same temperature as the ground in which it was; supposing that it were admitted, as you say, heated, and had to pass through a mile of mains, do you consider that, under any circumstances, a mile would be sufficient to bring the gas down to the temperature of the earth?—Of course that would very much depend upon the velocity at which the gas was going

Dr. *E. Frankland.*

24 May 1867.

going and the diameter of the main, but I should think that there would be established something like an equable temperature in a mile.

257. Supposing the gas to be stored safe for 10 hours in the gas-holder, would it be possible then that the gas would be so heated as to fulfil the conditions which you named?—That is quite possible.

258. After remaining there ten hours, it still would be so hot as to deposit the hydro-carbons?—Do you mean ten hours after the gas in the retorts is shut off from it?

259. Quite so?—I should say not, except in summer, but in summer that might be so when the sun was shining on the gas-holder.

260. According to your experience, how long a time should elapse from the manufacture of the gas before it is admitted into the supply main?—If the gas be properly cooled in the refrigerator, no time at all need elapse.

261. Would that be sufficient to cool it?—If the refrigerator had sufficient power, but sometimes that is not the case.

262. Then it would be only under exceptional circumstances that the gas would be so hot as to deposit hydro-carbon?—I think not always under exceptional circumstances. I have known gas intentionally admitted into the holder at a high temperature, in order that it might pass into the mains warm.

263. What would be the object of that intentional passing?—To increase the illuminating power of the gas. You get a greater illuminating power at some considerable distance away from the works if you pass the gas in this condition, because it is then, to some extent, naphthalised gas.

264. Can you give me any idea as to the time which should be allowed to elapse after the manufacture of the gas before it was admitted, so as to reduce it to the proper temperature?—I should say that from six to ten hours would be amply sufficient, supposing the gas were no longer flowing into the holder; but if you have a constant stream of gas flowing into the holder, there is no saying.

265. You could not give any guide?—No.

266. Mr. *Grove.*] The gas, as you have stated, has been generated from the retort and passes into the gasometer or gas-holder?—It passes first through the refrigerator, and then through the purifiers, and then into the gas-holder.

267. In the ordinary manufacture of gas, is it substantially above the temperature at which it should be given off when it arrives at the gas-holder?—No; if the manufacture is properly conducted, that is the temperature at which it ought to go into the mains.

268. Then, in the general run of manufacture, that is at the proper temperature?—Certainly.

269. And, therefore, unless by accident or design, it would go at the proper temperature into the pipe?—It would.

270. So that, when it does not, it must be an exception, either arising from negligence, or from the design of the gas producer to give a better illuminating gas?—It must.

271. And in doing that, he runs the risk of producing naphtha in the pipes?—Yes, he has to go through the process of pumping the naphtha out of the mains when this process is going on.

272. Is it desirable to send gas naphthalised in this way as it proceeds from the gas meter?—Not through the mains. There is an advantage in naphthalising gas just before it gets into the building and is consumed.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *George Wilson Stevenson* is sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

Mr. *G. W. Stevenson*

273. You are an Engineer residing in London, I believe?—Yes.

274. And you have for some years past devoted your attention a great deal to the gas question?—Yes, for the last 20 years.

275. You are engineer to several gas companies, are you not?—Yes.

276. And you are also a lessee of gas works?—Yes.

277. And you are engineer, amongst others, to the Corporation of Halifax?—I have been for the last ten years.

278. And

278. And you reconstructed their gas works, I believe, and managed them?—I did, and for six years I managed them.

279. Therefore in every form you have, and still continue to have, an intimate acquaintance with gas matters?—Yes.

280. With the construction of gas works and the production of gas?—Yes, and the cost.

281. You are also, I believe, the engineer to the new company which was established at Brighton a year or two ago?—Yes, last Session.

282. What was the maximum price allowed in that Bill?—3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

283. I believe that was a Bill which was a great deal discussed, and it was thought very hard, was it not?—It was. The cost of gas at Brighton was very minutely inquired into, both by the Court of Referees and by the Committee of the House of Commons.

284. I should add, at the same time, that the illuminating power at that time was 14 candles?—Fourteen sperm candles. The Committee of the House of Commons fixed the illuminating power at 14 sperm candles, and the maximum price at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

285. You were examined also before Parliament, I think, in 1866, upon the Metropolis Inquiry?—I was.

286. And you there, I believe, entered very fully into the general question of the supply of gas to the metropolis by the existing gas companies?—Yes.

287. Your attention has been directed now to the clauses in this Bill which refer to the questions of price and purity, has it not?—Yes.

288. You had, I believe, directed your attention to those two subjects very considerably before you were examined in 1866?—Yes, I had.

289. And you were examined then at considerable length upon those questions?—I was.

290. It is proposed by this Bill to fill up the blank of price at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, and of the illuminating power at 18 sperm candles?—Yes.

291. Have you also observed in that Bill the mode by which it is proposed to test the gas?—Yes, by the appointment of a Gas Board.

292. In your judgment can gas be made in the metropolis at the 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet giving that illuminating power, reserving a profit of 10 per cent. to the makers?—Yes.

293. Then I believe that you made a calculation independently of those which have been made by the two witnesses who have preceded you?—Yes, quite independently.

294. And I believe that you have dealt with the matter in a different form?—Yes, I think I have. I never heard their figures until this morning, and therefore it must be dealt with in a different manner.

295. They have not adopted yours, I believe?—They have not.

296. You have taken the population of London as the basis of your calculation?—With regard to capital, I have.

297. Is that calculation of yours confirmed also by your observation and knowledge of other cities and towns?—Yes; it is well known that the capital required for the construction and carrying on of gas works varies from about 16 *s.* to 20 *s.* per head of the population. I have assumed the higher figure for London, and I have supposed that an expenditure of 3,000,000 *l.* sterling would suffice very amply for the construction of the works in suitable positions on the outskirts of London, and would supply working capital wherewith to carry on the gas supply of the metropolis.

298. Have you any reason for selecting this maximum figure of 20 *s.*, instead of taking an intermediate figure between the 16 *s.* and the 20 *s.*?—Yes; I wished to put the cost of the works as high as I reasonably could, and because, perhaps, the cost of the works would be as high in the neighbourhood of London as they would be anywhere.

299. Could you state to the Committee any instance in the provinces, or in any cities, from which you have derived those figures of 16 *s.* and 20 *s.*?—We are constantly constructing works.

300. The Committee are not so conversant with the subject as you are, and therefore I ask you that question. In constructing the works, do you take population into consideration?—Yes, always.

Mr. *G. W. Stevenson.*

24 May 1867.

301. You constructed the Brighton Gas Works, I think?—No; I have not constructed any works at Brighton. I am engineer for the new company which got their Act of Parliament last Session; but they have not yet commenced to construct their works.

302. That was the establishment of a new company to compete against the old established companies?—With two existing companies.

303. What are the gas works which you have constructed which enable you to speak with so much confidence as to this 16 *s.* or 20 *s.*?—They are all comparatively small works. There is nothing to compare with London. There is a comparatively small work for Clayton, Allerton, and Thornton, in the neighbourhood of Bradford.

304. Would the average cost or expenditure of capital per head be greater or less in a large place?—It would be much less, because the expenditure in mains would be less. I do not think that the cost of stationary plant in the production of gas would be less, because that would be exactly in the ratio of the quantity of gas required to be produced; but in proportion as you have a large consumption in each mile of mains, the cost in pipeage would be very much lessened.

305. But taking it generally, the greater the amount of population that you have to supply, the less would be the capital required per head?—Quite so.

306. Therefore, in dealing with the 20 *s.*, you have not only taken the maximum, but you have applied the maximum to the case where there ought to be a minimum?—It is so; but still, as I said before, the cost of constructing works in London and the neighbourhood is perhaps greater, and no doubt is greater, than it is in many places in the country.

307. You take the population of London as 3,000,000 I believe?—I do.

308. Then 10 per cent. upon the capital which you require, which would be 3,000,000 *l.*, of course would be 300,000 *l.*?—Yes.

309. Will you state in your own way, shortly, how you arrive at the cost of the gas as 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet?—Yes, I assume, in the first instance, that 18 sperm candle gas is to be supplied at least 1,000 yards distance from the works. It would be there tested, and it would be there 18 sperm candles; by the time it reached 1,000 yards from the works it would have perhaps deposited as much of its illuminating power as it would do if it were to travel two or three, or four or five, or six miles. Having premised that the process of computing the cost of the gas is this—I take seven-tenths of a ton of Wigan cannel coal at 27 *s.*——

310. I must ask you about that 27 *s.* a ton?—It is a very high estimate.

311. It is a different figure from what the other witnesses have taken; why did you fix upon the 27 *s.*?—I have taken the companies' own figure.

312. Which company?—The figures given in the correspondence between the companies and the Board of Trade.

313. Will you refer to that?—I preferred to take their own figures. It is on page 16, in the engineer's estimate sent to the Board of Trade on the 21st of January 1867, that Wigan cannel is stated to cost 27 *s.* per ton. I think it may be obtained for less, but I give that figure. I have taken seven-tenths of a ton of Wigan cannel at 27 *s.*, which is 18 *s.* 10 *d.*, and three-tenths of a ton of Newcastle coal at 16 *s.* (also taking their figure), which would be 4 *s.* 5 *d.*, 12 bushels of coke for fuel, with which to carbonize that ton of coal at 3 *d.*, which is 3 *s.*; making a total of 26 *s.* 3 *d.*; I then deduct the residuals.

314. Do you get this from the same sheet?—No; the engineers in this estimate say that the value of the Wigan coke is very much less than that of the Newcastle coke. I have never found in my sale of coke that it has been less. I have always sold Wigan cannel coke at the same price as Newcastle coke, and I assume here that it will be sold at the same price. I have taken their figure, 3 *d.* a bushel. I should mix Wigan and Newcastle coke, and sell it at 3 *d.* a bushel.

315. Is it a fact that, at the gas works with which you have been concerned, you have actually got that price?—Yes, I have. I am telling you what I know from my own working. It was stated last year by Mr. Clemenshaw, of the Manchester Gas Works, that Wigan coke was equal to Newcastle coke.

316. That was given in the evidence of 1866?—It was; I can find it, but Mr. Clemenshaw is here to speak to it himself. I took 36 bushels of coke at 3 *d.*, that is 9 *s.*, and 4 bushels of breeze, 2 *d.* (their own figures), 10 gallons of tar,

tar, 11 *d.*, 10 gallons of liquor, 2 *d.*; making a total of 10 *s.* 3 *d.*, which deducted from 26 *s.* 3 *d.*, the previous total, leaves 16 *s.* as the value of the raw material for a ton.

317. Before you go on, if you please, I see there is again 1 *l.* 1 *s.* 4 *d.* appearing at page 16. Then, the gas made from seven-tenths of a ton of Wigan cannel coal, which yields on the year's working 10,200 feet per ton, and from three-tenths of a ton of Newcastle coal, which will yield on the year's working 9,500 feet per ton, would be 9,990 feet; and 9,990 feet, at 16 *s.*, would make the cost of the gas, for raw material alone, 19·21 *d.* per 1,000 feet. That is 18 candles. Then to this must be added 15 per cent. for loss by distribution and waste, and fraud, and so on, amounting to 2·11 *d.*, and 12·61 *d.* for manufacture, management, repairs, rates, establishment, and all incidental expenses; making the total cost of the gas 33·93 *d.*, or say 2 *s.* 10 *d.* per 1,000 feet. That is the cost of gas at the consumer's burner at per 1,000 feet.

318. At per 1,000 yards distance?—Wherever the consumer's burner may be; anything over 1,000 yards.

319. Taking this yield of cannel coal and of the Newcastle coal, are you dealing with facts within your own knowledge, or is it mere speculation on your part?—They are facts within my own knowledge. I take the engineer's statement as to the yield of Newcastlecoal, of say 9,500 feet.

320. But your own experience would confirm that?—I have never worked Newcastle coal; I cannot say what is the yield of Newcastle coal. I have experimented with it, but never worked it on a large scale; but the Wigan cannel I have worked, and I know all about it.

321. Knowing all about it, are you satisfied that you have made a fair calculation of the yield?—Yes; it will be 10,200 feet per ton on the year's working. More might be got by experiment, but not by working on a large scale, I think.

322. Then the loss by distribution, waste, and fraud, is taken also from what source?—That is a large allowance.

323. A liberal allowance?—It is a very liberal allowance; there are companies working under 10 per cent.

324. In this calculation you seem to have taken the maximum price, and made the maximum allowances?—I have done so.

325. And that you say brings it to 2 *s.* 10 *d.* for 1,000 cubic feet?—Yes; I might say with regard to the 12·61 *d.* for manufacture, management, repairs, and so on, that there are London companies working considerably under that at the present moment.

326. But have you ascertained what is the lowest price at which they are working?—I think at about 8 *s.* I think that the Commercial Company is working at about 8 *s.*

327. Do you know what the highest is at which they are working?—I do not think that I can charge my memory with it. I think this is closely upon the highest cost, 10 *s.* 6 *d.* or 11 *s.*

328. Will you proceed with your calculation. The present consumption of gas in London is what?—That is about 9,000,000,000 cubic feet per annum; 8 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet upon that quantity will give exactly 300,000 *l.*, which is the required dividend. Then 2 *s.* 10 *d.* for the cost of the gas at the consumer's burner, plus 8 *d.*, is 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, the proper selling price for 18 candle gas in London.

329. In arriving at the 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, I understand from the mode in which you have made this calculation that that is in your judgment a maximum price, that is to say, that it could be made, and probably would be made, and sold at a profit at less than 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet?—I think that it would. I think that it might be made for less.

330. Are you aware of the mode in which, under the present Gas Acts, all London is districted?—Yes.

331. What is your opinion of the effect of that upon the consumers?—It prohibits the consumer from enjoying the benefits of competition, whatever those benefits may be. Virtually London is supplied by one company, and the whole of the companies, taken in the aggregate, ought to be treated as one company, and the consumer ought to be protected as he would be if one company were supplying London.

 332. Supposing

Mr. *G. W. Stevenson.*

24 May 1867.

332. Supposing that one company were supplying London, you say that the price at which the gas could be supplied would be considerably lower than the price which is charged now?—Very much.

333. That is the assumption upon which you found your evidence?—Yes; you see the cost of management and of all superintendence is pretty nearly constant after you get to a certain point in the manufacture. After you get to work on a certain scale of magnitude the management and superintendence are pretty nearly constant, whereas the cost of making gas per thousand feet will of course bear an exact proportion to the quantity made. But at the present time we have 13 different companies in London, no one of which can invade the district of another, and no consumer in one district can come to the district of another company and say: "You are supplying gas at a lower price than the other company which is now supplying me, and I want to have gas from you." They must take exactly what the company occupying the district chooses to give them. I say that Parliament ought to step in and protect the consumers in a case of that kind.

334. From your experience you say that the consumers are mulcted to the extent to which they pay, between 3 *s.* 6 *d.* and the present charge?—Between 3 *s.* 4 *d.*; it was lately 4 *s.* 6 *d.* on an imaginary line; the South Metropolitan Company were supplying the same gas at 3 *s.* 4 *d.* per thousand feet on one side of the street as the Phœnix Company were supplying at 4 *s.* 6 *d.* on the other side of the street. I say that that is a state of things which ought not to be permitted to continue.

335. Is the price of gas increased also by having the control in the several bodies, that is, having separate staffs?—No doubt about it. All the costs of superintendence and management are increased by having 13 companies.

336. Then, in point of fact, the consumer and the public are now paying for the gas being supplied by so many different companies?—That is one element in the large cost of gas in some districts.

337. The question has been raised with regard to the effect upon gas in travelling a distance through the mains; you heard what Dr. Frankland stated upon that subject; do you consider that there is any diminution in the quantity of gas by its travelling a distance in the main?—There is diminution both in quality and in quantity.

338. From what does that arise?—Until the gas acquires the temperature of the mains through which it is being passed, it continues to deposit its heavy hydro-carbons; when it acquires that temperature, it ceases to deposit, and it is pretty well understood now amongst engineers, and indeed it has been ascertained, by experiment in different towns, that at a distance of 1,000 yards from the works, or from that to a mile, the gas has deposited as much of its illuminating property as it ever will do; and after that time, through four, or five, or six miles of main; it does not continue to lose its illuminating power.

339. Have you taken all those facts into your consideration in the calculation which you have made here?—I have.

340. At present it has been suggested by the witnesses that the mode of securing this greater illuminating power should be by the use of cannel coal. Are there other means by which that result could be obtained?—Yes, there is the use of shale oil or bitumen, by which the illuminating power of the gas may be increased.

341. Mixed with the coal?—Yes; I do not think that our present knowledge of the manufacture of gas and its illuminating power is going to be at a stand still. I think that we shall continue to improve in that as in other things. I do not think we ought to assume that we are going to stand still either in the process of manufacture or in the obtaining of better results.

342. Is it a fact that as we go on we are improving in the manufacture of gas?—It is so.

343. You do not think you have arrived at the end of it?—I hope not. I should be sorry to think we had come to the end of the world yet.

344. Would any other mode, in your judgment, be so available for the purpose of increasing the illuminating power as the use of cannel coal?—I think not at present. I think it is possible that a material will be introduced which will compete with the Wigan cannel and with the Scotch cannels, and so bring down the price of that article.

345. I was

345. I was leading to that, because it has been assumed by some questions put upon cross-examination, that cannel coal is the only material?—It is not so.

346. If there are other modes you say which would effect the same object, that would have the effect of competing with cannel coal?—It would indeed. I know that experiments are now going on with a view to introducing what may be of the greatest value in giving an illuminating property to very poor gas, which will be simply the vehicle, and those experiments are now being made, and are going on most favourably.

347. If the price of the cannel coal was by any means to increase, there are other means which you could profitably employ for increasing the illuminating power?—There are.

348. Therefore the cost of increasing your illuminating power does not depend entirely upon the price of cannel coal?—Not at all.

349. You have had a great deal to do with cannel coal, and are familiar with it; do you believe there is likely to be any want of cannel coal for years to come?—I do not think there is likely to be any scarcity of cannel coal; the cannel coal fields have got pretty much into the hands of one company, and it is their interest to limit the "get" of the coal, as it is called, to limit the production of the coal from the pits, in order to enhance the price, and they are absolutely doing it.

350. That will lengthen the duration of the supply?—Yes.

351. Has your attention been at all directed to the gas which is supplied in the city of Edinburgh?—I have been in Edinburgh, and I know the gas there.

352. The gas both there and at Glasgow is rather exceptional, is it not?—They are very rich gases. A very small flame, indeed, suffices to light a room. They use what is called a "cockspur" burner, and a single small jet illumines a fair sized room very well. It consumes less oxygen, and does not deteriorate the atmosphere of the room.

353. Do you agree with the other witnesses who think that if the illuminating power of the gas is improved by the introduction of cannel coal, there will be a much greater demand for gas, and that, therefore, the companies will have a greater amount for sale than they have at the present moment?—I think that if 18 candle gas were sold in London, there would be a less quantity used.

354. But do you not think that persons would be induced to use a purer and better gas who do not use it at the present moment?—I think that numbers of people residing in the west end of the town would have 18 or 20 candle gas in their drawing-rooms, when now they studiously shut it out.

355. It seems to have been admitted by the report of last year, that the supply of gas at the present time is not so pure as it might be, to put it no higher?—It is admittedly so.

356. And that inconvenience would be a good deal removed if this cannel coal were used, and the illuminating power increased?—It would be to some extent. It does not matter whether Wigan cannel, or any other cannel, or Newcastle coal be used; unless the gas be properly purified, it will be sent out to the consumers with its impurities contained in it; but the whole question of purifying is proposed to be referred to a gas Board.

357. Does the gas which proceeds from cannel coal require the same amount of purification as gas made from a commoner coal?—Yes, quite as much.

358. There is no difference in that respect?—Not practically. The great reason why the gas in London is so impure at the present time is, that the companies will not use lime. They use oxide of iron, and satisfy themselves with that purification.

359. Their answer to that, I believe, is this, that the use of lime renders it necessary to have a large space to put what they call the "blue Billy" on?—Yes; the use of lime is objected to. They may get a good deal of sulphur out of gas by using other means, without using lime, if they wish it, with ammoniacal liquor. To a certain extent it will bring out the sulphur compounds.

360. Is it not the fact that from the improvement of burners, what was equal to 12 candle gas in 1860 is equal to 14 candle gas now?—That is so.

361. The quality of gas remaining the same, it is improved in the process of combustion?—Yes. A burner has been discovered since 1860 which developes

Mr. *G. W. Stevenson.*

24 May 1867.

the quality of the gas fully; that is to say, it does not restrict it. In the year 1860 this burner with the large holes, and a burner suitable for testing 14 candle gas, was not known; and since 1860 this burner has been discovered, which developes the full illuminating power of the gas. If that burner had been known in the year 1860, the possibility is that a higher illuminating power might have been fixed in the 1860 Bill.

362. Of course that is all to the advantage of the company?—Entirely so. If we were to revert now to the burner of 1860, we should have 12 candle gas instead of 14 candle gas.

363. Therefore they can supply more 12 candle gas now than they could before at the same price?—Yes, it is the same thing.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

364. Other people have been called who put that difference at half a candle, or rather putting it the other way, at one and a half candles; you seem to put it at two candles?—It is about two candles.

365. But we have had scientific people putting it at half a candle?—It is one and a half to two candles.

366. Did not all the scientific people agree last year in saying that it was about half?—I think not, so far as my memory goes.

367. Then I must take it from you that it is from one and a half to two candles?—If you please.

368. And you know the companies last year said they were willing to give 12 by the new burner?—Yes.

369. So that they were giving a better quality of light than they were required to do by the Act?—Yes, half a candle, according to your view.

370. About improvements; my learned friend puts into your mouth that improvements are going on; what improvements have been made since 1860, except this burner?—Do you mean in testing the illuminating power?

371. No, I do not; I mean in the manufacture of gas?—Improvements are constantly going on.

372. But can more good gas be made out of a given quantity of coal than was made in 1860?—I think not; clay retorts were in use then, and there has been no means of making more gas than by a proper use of clay retorts; I do not anticipate that we shall ever get more gas out of a ton of coal than we are getting now.

373. Then is more light got from a ton of coal now than was got in 1860?—No; but I do not look upon coal as the only material from which to make gas.

374. I know that, but we are dealing with facts and not with prophecies; is this other stuff of yours, bitumen and shale oil, yet used in any large way in making gas?—I think not; a new discovery does not jump into universal use at once, and especially among London companies.

375. You told us that improvements were made?—I am telling you the fact that there is a substance which is obtainable, and which is now offered to be supplied to companies at 2 *l.* per ton, which gives a large yield of gas of a very high illuminating power; and I say that this is likely to come into competition with the cannel coal, and keep the price of those cannels down.

376. That is, you think it is?—I say that I think it is likely.

377. How long has the existence of this stuff been known?—That I do not know; I have not known of it more than 12 months.

378. Not the shale oil?—The shale oil; but I mean the Trinidad bitumen.

379. If you tell me that I cannot help it; now we will begin at the beginning. You were engineer to the Halifax Corporation?—Yes.

380. Are the gas works corporation works?—Yes.

381. What price do they charge?—4 *s.* maximum, and 3 *s.* 2½ *d.* minimum.

382. The 3 *s.* 2½ *d.* is for the supply of large quantities, where they give a discount?—Yes.

383. The regular price is 4 *s.*?—The maximum price is 4 *s.*

384. The

384. The regular price?—The maximum price. The average of all the gas sold is 3 *s.* 7½ *d.*

385. Of course the average must be lower, obviously?—And I should say that several of the largest consumers in Halifax made their own gas, and constructed their works at a time when the company who preceded the corporation in the enjoyment of the gas works had not the means to supply. Messrs. Crossley make their own gas, and the Messrs. Holdsworth too.

386. Is not the price at which the ordinary consumer is supplied at Halifax, 4 *s.*?—The price at which a person burning less than 20,000 feet a quarter is charged is 4 *s.*, above that he begins to take a discount.

387. *Chairman.*] What power is that gas?—14 sperm candles. That is the minimum in the Act of Parliament, but they practically supply 16 sperm candles.

388. Mr. *Denison.*] Do you know enough of those works to be able to tell me the cost of coal per ton at Halifax?—I think I can; the average cost of coal is about 11 *s.* 3 *d.* a ton.

389. But I have a paper here which I understand comes from you, and I do not find any figure like that there?—I am afraid you have not got the latest return. You are reading from a paper in the year 1861.

390. I am glad to hear it, because I see something to be made of it. What is your price at Halifax now?—11 *s.* 3 *d.* per ton.

391. What was it in 1861 (*handing a paper to the Witness*)?—It was a good deal less, I think, but their standard then was 12 wax candles, and they are now supplying 14 sperm candles.

392. But that does not alter the cost of the coal?—I beg your pardon, it very much alters the cost, because I am now giving the cost of cannel.

393. Will you be kind enough to tell me the cost of coal in Halifax in 1861?—8 *s.* 9½ *d.*

394. It is now 11 *s.* 6 *d.*?—The cost of coal and cannel combined. The cost of coal to produce 12 wax candles, which is only equal to 10½ sperm candles, was 8 *s.* 9½ *d.* in 1861; it is now, to produce 14 sperm candle gas, 11 *s.* 3 *d.*

395. But what is the coal used there now?—It is Yorkshire coal and Wigan cannel.

396. Does it differ from the coal which was used in 1861?—The coal does not.

397. Do you mean that cannel is used now and was not used in 1861?—I do.

398. Can you give me the price of coal, as distinguished from cannel?—I think that it is about 9 *s.* 6 *d.* It is raised in price about 9 *d.* a ton, and the price of cannel in Halifax is a guinea a ton. The average price of all coal and cannel used to produce 14 candle gas is about 11 *s.*

399. You have said that several times. You have made an estimate per head of the population as to the cost of gas works. What was the population of Halifax at the time when your works were made?—I had better give you the capital and the population.

400. You had better answer my question, I think?—I really cannot tell you; I have not it by me. The population in 1861, I dare say, supplied from those works, would be about 45,000 people, or perhaps 50,000.

401. Now then you may give me the capital?—I do not know what it was in 1861.

402. This will tell you I suppose (*handing a paper to the Witness*)?—I have not seen this before.

403. I think you have?—The capital was 91,165 *l.* The population supplied would be about 45,000 to 50,000.

404. But here is a paper put into my hands (it may be right or wrong) calling the population 37,000?—That is the Parliamentary borough.

405. How do you know?—I do know. That is not the population of the district supplied by the gas works.

406. What do you put the population of the district at?—From 45,000 to 50,000, in 1861. It is now nearer 70,000.

407. Now, then, we can divide that as you say. Now let us go on. How much have the company expended since 1861; do you know?—I can tell you what their present capital is; it is 140,000 for the supply of about 70,000 people, very likely. But I should like to explain that, as you have asked me about

Mr. *G. W. Stevenson.*

24 May 1867.

about that capital; I should like the Committee to know that the corporation bought the works from a company when that company was *in extremis*, and paid 37,500 *l.* for works which were not worth 12,000 *l.*, so that they are saddled with a very large capital which is absolutely dead; and, in addition to that, a considerable portion of this 140,000 *l.* represents expenditure for the future. It is not yet productive.

408. You say that the works are not worth that which sounds extraordinary for the corporation. I suppose somebody thought they were worth it?—The corporation knowingly paid a very large sum of money in order to extinguish the right of the company, and to become themselves the manufacturers and suppliers of gas.

409. Do you mean that they gave more for the works than they cost. I observed that you said, "what they were worth," which is not the same thing as what they cost?—They gave a great deal more than the capital.

410. More than the share capital and loan capital?—I believe so.

411. How much more?—It is stated here in the correspondence before the Committee. Halifax is one of the towns instanced. On page 41 of the first correspondence, it is stated that the metropolitan gas companies——

412. You say in the correspondence, whose correspondence do you mean?—The correspondence between the Board of Trade and the Corporation of the City of London, the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the Gas Companies of London.

413. Oh, you mean this thing of Sir John Thwaites's?—No, indeed, I do not; I mean your client's.

414. I see "J. Thwaites" written very near it?—This is a reply of the companies to a letter of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and it is reprobating the idea of taking the metropolitan gas works, by paying them 6 per cent. for their capital; and the companies proceed to show that in all those towns, Birkenhead, Burnley, Bury, Darlington, Halifax, Macclesfield, and Oldham, where the works once belonged to companies and were purchased by corporations, a very much larger sum has been paid than the share capital; and in Halifax I see that it is stated that for every 100 *l.* of share capital the corporation paid 240 *l.*

415. Then what is the inference drawn from that. "From the prices paid in these instances, it is clear that no other basis could have been adopted than that of a secured income of 10 per cent."; is not that so?—The company were not making 10 per cent. at that time, nor paying 10 per cent. I put this in to show that the corporation paid a great deal more than the share capital.

The *Chairman* inquired what bearing this had upon the question of 1 *l.* per head of the population being sufficient for the gas works at Halifax.

Mr. *Denison* replied that the witness volunteered these statements, and that they were not in answer to questions put to him.

416. Mr. *Denison* (to the *Witness*).] I must ask you a question about Brighton. You are the engineer to the new company which got its Bill last year, are you not?—Yes.

417. You say that you have not begun your works; is your capital taken?—I do not know.

418. Really?—Really. I have never attended any meeting of the directors, and know nothing at all about it.

419. You have not been put in much action then?—No.

420. You got your Bill as a competing Bill; a 3 *s.* 6 *d.* Bill, did you not?—I think not. I think that was not the basis upon which the Committee granted the Bill.

421. You thought it was last year, because you triumphed over it?—No, I did not. If you will excuse me, I think that it is stated in the evidence in this metropolitan inquiry of last year that a further capital was required at Brighton. The Brighton and Hove Company were in Parliament asking for further capital; the Committee thought that the company ought not to be permitted to extend their works where they were at Hove, and the company could not get the land which they wanted at Aldrington; we had the land at Aldrington, and the

House

House of Commons empowered us to raise capital to erect the works and make the necessary extensions.

Mr. *G. W. Stevenson.*

24 May 1867.

The *Chairman* suggested that the witness could not know the grounds which influenced the decision of the Committee.

422. Mr. *Denison* (to the *Witness*).] Did you propose 3 *s.* 6 *d.* to the Committee yourself; you cannot tell what influenced the Committee?—We did, and Mr. Hawksley supported it.

423. You, having proposed that to the Committee, got your Bill?—I will not say in consequence?—We got our Bill.

424. And the other company, or other companies, felt themselves bound, as I understand you to say, to reduce their price also to 3 *s.* 6 *d.*?—No; they were in Parliament asking for further powers as to capital and land; and, being in Parliament, the said maximum price and minimum illuminating power were imposed upon them as we were seeking voluntarily to put ourselves under.

425. They are in existence, and have some works, although you have not?—Yes.

426. Do you know what has been the effect upon their dividends of that last reduction?—I have seen the balance sheet.

427. Do you know the effect upon their dividends?—No, I cannot understand the balance sheet.

428. You being the engineer to the new company, and having seen their balance sheet, tell this Committee that you do not know what the effect of their balance sheet is?—I do not know. I have not had the opportunity of analysing their balance sheet, and comparing it with other balance sheets.

429. I am no great conjuror at these things; but I cannot help understanding it, and I do not think that you can; try if you cannot find something about dividend in that paper (*handing a paper to the Witness*)?—Do you mean appro priation of profit dividend for the half-year. They may state anything they like in the way of appropriation of profit. I see that it is here stated, "dividend for the half-year"——

430. Perhaps you will let the Chairman and the Committee see it, and see what they make of it?—Yes (*handing the paper to the Committee*). I should tell you that there is a return made for the six years' previous working of that company.

431. You said you could not ascertain the dividend of the company for the last year?—I did not say that, and I did not mean it.

The *Chairman* stated that he understood the Witness to say that he (the Witness) was not competent to form an opinion as to whether this paper was an accurate description of the accounts of the company, or whether the circumstances of the company would have enabled them, if they had been so disposed, to declare a higher amount of dividend.

432. Mr. *Denison* (to the *Witness*).] Having looked at that paper, I ask you again the question: Do you believe, having seen that paper published by that company, that their dividend was more than 5 per cent. last half-year?—I do not believe that they declared a higher dividend than 5 per cent.; but I should like to have the opportunity of analysing the accounts very much indeed.

432*. Having looked at that paper again, have you any doubt that they were only able to pay that dividend at the rate of 5 per cent., by taking something from their reserved fund; the reserve fund, as I remember, being less than it was before?—I see that there is a balance carried to the next half-year's account.

The *Chairman* intimated that he did not think the learned Counsel was entitled to expect the Witness to express an opinion upon accounts which he had never seen before.

433. Mr. *Denison* (to the *Witness*).] You were examined last year, were you not?—Yes.

434. And by the Committee?—Yes.

435. I see that you were asked by one Member of the Committee this, were you

Mr. *G. W. Stevenson.*

24 May 1867.

you not, at Question 4492: "The result of your evidence or opinion appears to be, that the price of gas should be regulated in reference to 10 per cent. dividend on the capital, not as it is, but as it ought to be?—A. Yes, upon the proper amount of capital."?—Yes.

436. That I take to be your present view?—Yes, it is.

437. And your present view is, that a proper amount of capital is 3,000,000 *l.*, instead of 6,000,000 *l.*?—Who said 6,000,000 *l.*?

438. That will appear by the paper; we need not trouble about that. Then you were asked last year by a Member of the Committee: "I put the case as to people who have bought property in these companies since the passing of the Act of 1860; the result of your evidence or your opinion is, that a certain portion of their capital ought to be confiscated in favour of what you call the public?—A. I would not confiscate the capital. Q. You would reduce the dividend?—A. Yes. Q. What do you call that but confiscation of capital? A. It would be a hardship upon them, there is no doubt." May I ask whether you still think so?—I do. I think that it is a hardship to a certain extent, but people invest their money and they have to submit to very great hardships. Gas companies are not the only companies in which capitalists invest their money, and do not get all the return they expect.

439. Is that what you mean by the hardship?—Yes, simply that.

440. Can you tell me any instance where Parliament has interfered to do what that Member of the Committee of last year called confiscation—arbitrarily to reduce a dividend?—Arbitrarily to reduce capital I can, as in the case of the Brighton and Hove just now.

441. Arbitrarily to reduce a dividend?—In that case the capital was reduced.

442. Do you know any instance of Parliament acting against companies not coming and asking for a Bill, so as arbitrarily to reduce their dividends?—Not the dividends upon old capital.

443. You do not like districting apparently?—Yes, I do.

444. Then I misunderstood your evidence?—No, you will find it in the evidence of last year.

445. But you might have altered?—I have not.

446. Then you approve of districting?—I think it is a necessity in London.

447. But you say that in one instance one company was charging 3 *s.* 4 *d.* on one side of a street, and another was charging 4 *s.* 6 *d.* on the other side of the street; supposing that 3 *s.* 4 *d.* had been reduced to 3 *s.* 4 *d.* because the company had reached its maximum dividend, whatever that might be, and the other company had not, what then?—That was exactly the state of things.

448. Then do you mean that whenever one company reaches its maximum dividend, and therefore reduces its price, all its neighbours should be obliged to do so too?—I think that there should be something like uniformity in the price of gas.

449. And that is the only way by which you can arrive at it; you think that there should be uniformity?—I think that there should be uniformity in the price of gas of the same quality throughout the metropolis.

450. You approve, or the Bill does, of their being a maximum price?—Yes.

451. And prices are to be reduced when the maximum is reached?—Yes.

452. When one company has reached that position so as to be obliged to reduce its price, do you think that all its neighbours, for the sake of uniformity, should be obliged to reduce their prices too?—I am not prepared to say what would be the actual operation of it. I should prefer to attack the capitals of the companies, but that is not proposed to be done by the Bill; and, therefore, I cannot give evidence upon that point.

453. You are not prepared to answer that question about maximum price and dividend?—I am not. It would require to be regulated from time to time by coming to Parliament.

454. Now you know, do you not, that the Independent Company, and I believe, some others, got Bills last year for extending their works and raising capital?—Yes, I think so.

455. And you know that they are obliged to do that by the Act of 1860, inasmuch as they are bound to supply?—Yes.

456. Do you know, as a fact, that the Imperial, in consequence of limitation to 7 per cent., has been unable to issue that capital?—I do not, but I can easily conceive that they have not, but not on that account. It has been utterly impossible to float capital in any company lately.

457. In a company paying 10 per cent. on ordinary capital, and which is authorised to pay 10 per cent.?—No matter how solvent a company has been, it has been utterly impossible to float capital since the last Session of Parliament.

458. I have no business to speak of my own knowledge, but I do sometimes get to know of there being a few shares in a company in which I can afford to put two pence. Do you really mean to say that you believe that companies paying good dividends have been unable to issue new capital at 7 per cent.?—Not guaranteed 7 per cent.

459. No, but unguaranteed 7 per cent?

The *Chairman* remarked that this was following up a question about which the Witness had stated that he knew nothing.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

460. With regard to this Halifax matter; if I understand you, the corporation gave there something, for what I might almost call the goodwill of the business?—Yes, they did.

461. That is to get rid of the company?—Yes; a very large sum indeed.

462. And, therefore, that does not at all represent the capital necessary for the construction of works to supply the population of Halifax?—Not at all.

463. And though that may appear in the first instance to controvert your estimate about the 1 *l.* per head of the population, that is accounted for by the circumstance to which I have referred?—Yes. It both appears to be, and it is, a very large capital for the business which they are doing, but it is all accounted for.

464. People who are well acquainted with these gas fights are pretty well aware that it is not an exceptional case at all?—No.

465. For the sake of getting rid of a company, corporations have given more than the actual value of the works?—They have always to do so.

466. With regard to Brighton, independently of other circumstances, does the fact of this being only the half year's account, show you at all that the reduction of price will ultimately have any effect upon the dividend of the company.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee have decided not to receive evidence on this point.

467. Mr. *Rodwell* (to the *Witness*).] What was the name of the company to which you referred which supplied gas at 3 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 feet, when the other was at 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Because their capital was a reasonable one.

468. But what was the name of it?—It was the South Metropolitan, and the Independent also did.

469. Is there any better corroboration of your view to be afforded than by this fact, that there is a company receiving 10 per cent. dividend, and charging only 3 *s.* 4 *d.* for their gas?—There are two companies, the South Metropolitan and the Commercial, both of whom are supplying gas of nearly 14 candles illuminating power for 3 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

470. And paying 10 per cent. dividend?—Paying 10 per cent., their full dividend.

471. Then the price of this gas is determined, not by the cost of production, but by the amount of capital?—Yes.

472. Then my learned friend says that it is a hardship on persons investing; is not that a hardship which is common to persons who invest in everything else?

The *Chairman* intimated that this was rather a matter for argument than for evidence.

Mr.
G. W. Stevenson.

24 May 1867.

Witness.] If I were to invest capital in a gas company in London, I should search out the company which had the least capital for the business it was doing.

473. Mr. *Rodwell.*] I understand that your view is that you think that it is a hardship upon the consumer and gas burner, that they should have to pay for the enormous capital which some of the companies have unnecessarily raised? —I do think so.

[The Witness withdrew.

Adjourned to Monday next, at 12 o'clock.

Monday, 27th May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Joseph Heron*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Webster*.

Mr. *Joseph Heron*.

27 May 1867.

474. YOU are Town Clerk of Manchester, I believe?—I am.

475. For a great many years the gas has been in the hands of the corporation of Manchester has it not?—It has; from the very commencement in fact.

476. What was the state of things at first?—You mean the establishment of the gas works in the first instance; the Commissioners of the township of Manchester established gas works for the supply of that township and the surrounding districts; that was before the establishment of the corporation.

477. The ratepayers?—Yes, the ratepayers; that is to say, the Commissioners of Police who represented the ratepayers; it was under the Local Police Act.

478. What was the area over which the ratepayers first established the gas works?—I cannot give any precise figures, but it was as I say, for the supply of the township of Manchester and the adjoining districts; in fact there is no limit in the Act to the district which the corporation are authorised to supply, but as a matter of fact, the corporation supply not only the township of Manchester and the four other townships which are included in the municipal corporation, but they supply a considerable extent on most sides of the borough; there is the borough of Salford on the other side of the river, and of course on that side of the river the corporation do not supply gas.

479. About what period was it when they first took up the matter of starting the gas works?—I think about 28 years ago.

480. I think, from the very first the surplus profits were applied to the town improvements?—In the first instance for a very short period, they were applied to the reduction of the township rates, but very shortly after the establishment of the gas works and while it was under the management of the Commissioners of Police, power was obtained from Parliament to apply the surplus profits in the making of improvements.

481. I believe, that as a financial transaction, it has been successful?—No doubt; nearly the whole of the improvements that have been made in the city of Manchester, have been paid for out of the gas profits, and I have a return here showing, that since the year 1844 upwards of 700,000 *l.* have been expended in that way, or rather has been paid out of the gas profits to the Improvement Committee; much more than that sum has been expended, but that has been expended by means of borrowed money.

482. I think that you began with borrowed money, and have repaid the whole, or a very large portion of it?—We are constantly borrowing and constantly repaying; we are under the usual obligation to repay 5 *l.* per cent. of the amount borrowed.

Chairman.] You need not go into that.

483. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] It is rather material; is all that correctly stated in the printed correspondence?—It is all correctly stated in, I think, the letter of Mr. Baxter; I can state the page.

Mr. *Joseph Heron.*

27 May 1867.

484. The debt is correctly stated there?—Yes; it is evidently taken from our published accounts.

485. It is Memorandum No. 3, dated the 26th of January, 1867?—It is page 20 in the printed correspondence, "Memorandum with respect to Manchester."

486. Is that the paper which begins, "The persons who have agitated for cheap gas?"—Yes; and it goes on to say, "With respect to Manchester." And there it is stated that the debt is 347,472 *l.* The amount of capital, as shown by the last annual account, is 547,854 *l.*; that is adding the debt to the surplus assets, in fact. It goes on to show what has been paid off, and that is correct too. But the amount of capital, on which the corporation only are entitled to obtain a satisfactory per-centage, is really 547,854 *l.* You may call it in round numbers, 600,000 *l.* with the floating capital.

487. I do not see how that figure is got at?—That figure is got at in this way: I hold in my hand a statement of the capital account, which I will hand to the learned counsel.

488. Mr. *Webster.*] At page 21, I observe it is stated that, "A sum, therefore, of no less than 462,711 *l.* of the capital of 810,183 *l.*, really invested in the concern, has been provided out of the profits." Is that correct?—I have no doubt that is correct, because it is quite evident that this paper has been prepared from the published accounts. I have not examined, nor have I the means of stating exactly what has been paid off.

489. Your attention has been directed to this matter before?—Yes.

490. Now, on the same page, you see the price of gas stated?—Yes; and the reduction from the year 1829 to the year 1866.

491. Now it is 3 *s.* 2 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet?—Yes.

492. Is that subject to any discount?—It is subject to a small discount of a penny per 1,000 feet where the consumption is upwards of 500,000 cubic feet. But, in order that you may have it correctly, I must state that, outside the city, there is an additional charge of 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, subject to the same deduction for the same gas.

493. Is there any considerable difference in the amount consumed per area within the city and without the city?—I almost think that I have a statement here showing that; no, I have it not in cubic feet. My statement shows the number of meters which are outside the city and inside the city.

494. On what principle is that difference of charge made?—The corporation think that they have a perfect right to have from those who choose to take gas outside the city, what they consider is the fair market price of the gas. They think that 3 *s.* 8 *d.* is a very reasonable price, and a low price in fact, for that quality of gas. Of course the parties may take it or not as they please. That we do not charge an excessive price is plain, because in many instances, where they have been rather large consumers, people in possession of the gas works have abandoned the works to take gas from the Manchester Corporation outside the city; that is frequently the case inside the city too, in fact, there are very few private gas works. Again, the gas works really belong to the inhabitants of the city who run the risk of accident and all contingencies, whereas the inhabitants outside the city have no liability whatever. At the same time an additional reason is, that we offer the gas at what is considered a fair market price, and they can do as they please as to taking it or not.

495. There are several private works which have been abandoned?—Yes, with large consumers.

496. *Chairman.*] The power at Manchester is 21 sperm candles, is it not?—Yes. This is the last report of the chemist who was employed by the corporation; he says, "I have the honour to report to you that the average illuminating power of the Manchester gas during the past year has been equal to 21·6 sperm candles consuming at the rate of 120 grains per hour, the consumption of the gas having been reduced to a constant standard of five cubic feet per hour. The photometric observations have been made daily in the centre of the town, and at the Rochdale-road gas station. The gas has been tested daily for sulphuretted hydrogen by the ordinary tests, and, in addition to this, has been continuously led through a test solution, so as to determine the absolute quantity of sulphuretted hydrogen in each 1,000 feet of gas, and has been reported daily for the ordinary tests, and fortnightly for the continuous test. On very few occasions has the impurity been present, and then only in the most minute quantity

quantity. The gas has contained very little tarry matter or napthaline, and the ammonia (always found in more or less quantity in gas) has been reduced to a minimum. The gas has been, as I have had occasion formerly to express myself, remarkably pure and clean." That is the report of John Leigh, the chemist, employed by the corporation; he is constantly employed, and receives a salary. He is a man of considerable scientific acquirements, and a member of the College of Surgeons.

497. Mr. *Webster.*] It is 21 candle gas; the price is 3 *s.* 2 *d.* within the city, and 3 *s.* 8 *d.* without the city for those who like to take it?—Yes; it is 21·6.

498. That is 21½ nearly, is it not?—Yes.

499. Can you tell us in any year, say in the year 1860, what the profits were; what were the different items of which it was made up, and the cost of manufacture?—I have got the year 1866; by the last account the profit, without taking credit for the depreciation, was 52,553 *l.*; the depreciation which had been previously taken off was 13,817 *l.* It is calculated on a different percentage in respect to all the property of the gas works; they deduct a different per-centage according to the character of the property; that makes a total of 66,370 *l.* That, of course, is the amount of profit, but a very small portion of that, only something like 20,000 *l.*, came to the corporation for improvements last year, because out of that we paid for interest 13,252 *l.* 13 *s.*; liquidation of mortgage debt, 19,784 *l.*, and then the surplus that came to the Improvement Committee is reduced to 19,516 *l.* odd.

500. You have the means of giving us the cost of the coal and the amount received from coke, have you not?—Yes; you will see that in page 5 of the report. The total amount of gas rental (which will show the amount received outside the city also) received within the city was 139,683 *l.* 8 *s.* 2 *d.*; the amount received beyond the city was 29,106 *l.* 15 *s.* 8 *d.*

501. Mr. *Goldney.*] Can you, without much trouble, give the quantity of gas? Yes; between 1,100,000,000 and 1,200,000,000; that makes a total of 168,790 *l.* 3 *s.* 10 *d.*; then for coke, tar, and ammonia water 30,130 *l.* 3 *s.* 6 *d.* I can state the price also for the residual products. I find that the produce of coke was about 5 *s.* per ton on the average; the price of the tar was about 20 *s.* per ton of tar; the price of the ammoniacal water is 8 *d.* per degree, and it usually sold at 6 degrees, or 4 *s.* for the 100 gallons.

502. Mr. *Webster.*] One question about the residual products. The price of coke was 5 *s.* per ton; that is rather low compared with other places, is it not?—I believe so, but I cannot speak positively.

503. What is about the quantity of coke on hand?—Just now that coke has been tolerably well disposed of, so that I do not know that there is any excessive quantity on hand. There are sometimes, when the quantity accumulates, very much; as I stated, in 1866 the quantity was very large, and we could scarcely sell it at any price. Coke is not so saleable in Manchester as it is in many other places.

504. There is not the same demand as in some of the agricultural districts?—Certainly not; we are obliged to sell it at a low price.

505. It is extremely low as compared with other places?—I have always understood so.

506. Mr. *Richards.*] Is it cannel coal that you use?—It is not entirely cannel, because they use both coal and cannel in the manufacture of gas.

507. Mr. *Webster.*] What is the proportion of cannel and other coal used in the manufacture of gas at Manchester?—The proportion of coal is about 33 per cent. of the quantity used.

508. By coal you mean coal as distinguished from cannel?—Yes; the amount paid for cannel coal is shown in the return. That must include coal as well, I think. It is stated on page 4 of the report that the amount paid for cannel coal was 79,021 *l.* 15 *s.* 11 *d.* in the year. The proportion is about one-third and two-thirds. Cannel is in the greater proportion. I will now state the price. I find that the price during the year of cannel coal has averaged 15 *s.* per ton, and the price of coal has averaged 10 *s.* per ton; making an average, in the year, of about 13 *s.* per ton on coal and cannel.

509. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Can you give the number of tons?—No, I cannot; but it is a matter of easy calculation.

510. Mr. *Richards.*] Can you say how many cubic feet?—That I cannot give you exactly the total quantity of gas.

Mr. *Joseph Heron*

27 May 1867.

511. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You say that the figure for cannel coal must include coal and cannel?—Yes; the common coal is the Wigan coal.

512. Mr. *Webster.*] It is about 33 per cent.?—Yes; 33 per cent. I now see that 11,600,000 cubic feet of gas is stated in the return.

513. Now, with regard to other residual products. Has Manchester any advantages in respect of those products?—I really do not know; I only know the price which we obtain ourselves.

514. Is it consistent with your experience that the consumption has increased as the rate has been reduced?—Very largely indeed. There is no question about it that the consumption has increased in a very extraordinary manner; and although the reductions from time to time have diminished, apparently the profits between 11,000 *l.* and 12,000 *l.* a year, each reduction has been comparatively small—much smaller than was anticipated. The consumption has increasd in a very extraordinary manner, and is still increasing. I have a Bill now waiting for the Royal assent, by which we have been forced to take powers to borrow 250,000 *l.*, for the purpose of extending our gas works, and in the course of four or five years I expect we shall have almost to double those works if the consumption goes on in anything like the same proportion as it has been going on during the last few years.

515. I need hardly ask you whether the manufacturing of gas, when modern improvements are taken advantage of, is a very profitable business?—No doubt.

516. From your experience, do you consider that the gas, being in the hands of a body like a corporation, is more likely to be manufactured economically than in the hands of companies?—I think it is very likely that would be the case as a general rule, where the inhabitants themselves are the manufacturers of the gas, and are interested in the result, and therefore would be more anxious to increase the profits; but at the same time it is very difficult to answer the question as a matter of opinion, because after all facts are even better than opinions, and we have all the facts constantly before us. There has been one reason why the reductions have been from time to time very much pressed on the corporation of Manchester; we have at the other end of the railway, the case of Liverpool, which is really in the hands of a company; the gas I fancy is about the same quality, and the price is about the same; but there is no doubt that the price has been rather higher in Manchester than it was in Liverpool; that has been one of the arguments made use of by the gas consumers to get the price reduced in Manchester.

517. I do not know whether you have any regulations about burners?—No; they are regulated by the committee; but I cannot speak exactly with regard to that.

518. Let me ask, whether, in your experience at Manchester, you think it an economical regulation that the illuminating power should be of a certain quality and the price also fixed at a certain amount?—In Manchester we have no parliamentary legislation or restriction of any kind with regard to the gas.

519. But from your experience, if you were to legislate for the metropolis, would you think the best mode would be by fixing the illuminating power and the price?—It seems to me a necessary consequence that if Parliament fixes the price they must fix the quality to be given for the price; it seems to be absolutely necessary that the illuminating power should be fixed in connection with the price in Manchester. We have no experience in the matter; it is an old Act of Parliament; we have simply powers to establish gas works, and do the best we can with them. Of course, the ratepayers do, to a certain extent, control the corporation.

520. With regard to this officer whom you employ, has he any directions with regard to the illuminating power?—None whatever, except to keep the committee informed at every meeting what is the illuminating power of the gas produced during the past fortnight.

521. He tells you what it has been, in fact?—Certainly, in order that the committee may be satisfied that the quality which they expect will be distributed is really obtained.

522. You are under no regulations, however, with regard to the illuminating power, but he reports what it actually is?—Yes.

523. Mr. *Peel.*] Have you no understanding with regard to the quality of the gas

gas that you supply outside the city?—None; we make no bargain. I do not suppose that they know what the illuminating power is; they know it is very good gas. They never ask, I dare say, what the illuminating power is. There is no parliamentary or other legislation fixing the illuminating power.

524. Mr. *Webster.*] You, being under the pressure of the ratepayers, so to speak, to supply a good article, do you, in fact, supply a good article?—Yes; certainly.

525. There is no difference with regard to the gas supplied outside the city and inside the city, except the 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, in price?—None whatever.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

526. Your illuminating power has varied very considerably at different times, has it not?—No, not very considerably; I think it has never been beyond 22 sperm candles, and it is now 21·6.

527. Before Liverpool was very much pressed on Manchester, was it equal to that?—Yes, it has been a matter of contest almost between the two towns in which the best gas was supplied. I believe that, practically, the illuminating power has been very much the same. No one could complain of it in either case.

528. But for a long time there was a considerable difference in price against the Manchester administration, was there not?—There was some difference, but it was not very considerable, I think; that is to say, Liverpool did sell gas some few years ago at rather a lower price than we were selling at Manchester.

529. Has not that been pretty continuously so?—I cannot say.

530. Is it not so at this moment?—No; I believe that the price is precisely the same.

531. Do you know the price in Liverpool at this moment?—I think it is 3 *s.* 2 *d.*

532. Three shillings is stated to me?—If that is so it is below us. I only speak to the best of my information; it is so in this very document on the table.

533. You cannot give us a detailed comparison of the Liverpool prices and qualities with the Manchester prices and qualities?—No.

534. Mr. *Webster.*] Mr. Hughes stated that it was 3 *s.* 2 *d.* in Liverpool?—That is where I obtained my information, I believe.

535. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I am informed that in Liverpool the price in 1864 was 3 *s.* 2 *d.*, and now in 1866 it is 3 *s.*, but we shall hear that from some one else. 21 sperm candles is the average illuminating power in Manchester, I think?—I have read the report, and I believe that is the illuminating power of all the gas distributed.

536. But it is the average illuminating power according to your inspector's report?—I do not go beyond the report.

537. There is no reason why he should put in the word "average" unless he had a meaning?—No.

538. You gave this answer in the year 1866 in answer to a question from Mr. Woods; at Question 3655,—"You stated that sometimes coal was used; I apprehend you would not think of producing a lower quality of gas than the present standard at Manchester, if it could by any possibility be avoided?—No; the standard has been reduced from the positive necessity of using a considerable quantity of coal; the standard was always for years above 22 candles, and now it is about 21 candles; it has been reduced slightly from the fact that we have been obliged to use a portion of coal, not being able to get all the cannel we required"?—That was, I believe, quite consistent with the facts, although it was afterwards by Mr. Lancaster, who really, I think, represents one of the large cannel concerns at Wigan, explained that the difficulties did not arise so much from the want of cannel coal as from the fact that the corporation were not prepared with the means of bringing it to the gas works. But there is no doubt, as far as this went, that that evidence was perfectly correct. We had allowed the usual stock of cannel in hand to go down to a very small amount, which was quite contrary to the usual practice, and the consequence was that there was a little difficulty in getting all the cannel coal required, and a little more coal than was thought desirable was used at that time; but we have now no difficulty in getting all the cannel coal that is required.

 539. This

Mr. *Joseph Heron.*

27 May 1867.

539. This was in May 1866; you used one-third of coal to two-thirds of cannel throughout the whole year 1866?—Yes.

540. Did the difficulty continue during the whole of the year 1866?—I cannot say whether it did or not; but I believe the qualities are in the proportions which the committee designedly use in the manufacture; whether the difficulty in getting the cannel is greater or not; and of course if the difficulty is great the price might be increased, but the committee did not think it desirable, and they did not attempt to make gas of a higher illuminating power than 21 candles. They keep it as near that as possible, believing that that is the quality which it is desirable to distribute. They use 33 per cent. of coal and the remainder in cannel. We get both from Wigan and from Wales, and, I understand, in small quantities from Staffordshire.

541. The price of cannel coal you put at 15 *s.* per ton?—That is the price for the past year. You speak of the accounts of June 1866.

542. My question, about May, may not be applicable then?—There is no doubt so far as the cannel coal is concerned; from Wigan it has rather increased in price than otherwise, I believe.

543. What is it just now?—I cannot say; I have heard that it is probably nearer 17 *s.* than 15 *s.*

544. What was it in the year 1865?—That I cannot give you.

545. What is the price of cannel coal in London?—I do not know, except from reading.

546. Should you be surprised to hear that it is 25 *s.*?—I should not be surprised if it were.

547. It will save us all a good deal of trouble, if you will be good enough to go through that Memorandum, No. 3, and just see whether this is an accurate statement upon other matters besides the account; is it the fact that the gas supply of Manchester has never been exposed to competition?—Yes, no doubt it is.

548. I believe that the Town Commissioners were the first body, as early as the year 1816, who began the system at Manchester?—I did not know it was as far back as that; I thought it was 1828.

549. However, there never was any other, and they never have been subject to any competition?—Never.

550. They have been, therefore, under no obligation to lay down duplicate mains, and to construct works for the supplies of districts of which they were not the sole masters?—Certainly not.

551. They have been able, from the commencement, to expend their capital in the most economical way possible, in the way that they themselves desired?—Yes; no doubt.

552. You have already told us that the speculation was a speculation of the ratepayers from the first?—Yes.

553. And not of a company desiring profit?—No.

554. However, profits have been made?—Yes.

555. And it has been a question how those profits should be expended?—Yes.

556. Always bearing in view that being created by the ratepayers, the ratepayers were, in some shape, to have an advantage from those profits?—Yes; of course it was to be expended for the benefit of the whole of the ratepayers, and yet, at the same time, kept for the benefit of all the gas consumers; the gas consumers being, of course, a very large proportion of the ratepayers.

557. There have been slight differences of opinion between the gas ratepayers and the corporation?—No doubt the gas ratepayers very often want to have their gas at cost price.

558. That is very wicked, evidently?—Of course if they can get it, it is perfectly justifiable.

559. However, at Manchester, you wish they may get it, I suppose?—No, we do not. In Manchester seeing that there is no competition, and that there never has been competition, the corporation consider that the gas consumers have a perfect right to have the gas supplied to them at as low a price as there is any reason to believe they could have obtained it for if we had unlimited competition, but having secured the gas at that price, then the ratepayers, to whom the works belong, have a perfect right to apply the profits that may be obtained,

obtained, in any way that will be most advantageous to the whole body of ratepayers.

560. You have done something considerable in the way of the reduction of capital; that is to say, when I speak of capital, I mean the expenditure actually upon your works?—Yes.

561. Are those figures correctly given in paragraph No. 3 of this paper?—I believe they are; I have very little doubt they are correct, though I have not had any opportunity of examining them or testing them, but I believe they are substantially correct. There is only one figure here as to which I do not know how it is obtained; it may be a reasonable suggestion or not, "add the working capital, which is at least 50,000 *l.*" I can give no opinion about that; I do not think there is anything like that amount of working capital actually employed.

562. You have 810,183 *l.* as the actual cost of the works?—Yes; as stated here.

563. You think that is correct?—I think very likely it is. I have very little doubt that this has been made out by a reference to the corporation accounts. It appears to me, as far as I have been able to examine the figures, that they exactly agree with the corporation accounts, and, therefore, I presume that the other figures have been obtained in the same way.

564. Do you agree with that statement: "A sum, therefore, of no less than 462,711 *l.* of the capital of 810,183 *l.* really invested in the concern, has been provided out of the profits, and is receiving no return?"—Of course it is not; it is extinguished.

565. Do you admit this statement of the prices of gas at different times charged by you?—I have no doubt that it will be correct. I almost think that I put in a return myself in 1866, which went as far back, or nearly so; and I have no doubt that the statement is correct.

566. If I understand the statement in that paper, that a higher price is charged elsewhere; that means out of the township of Manchester. You say that it is so, and that it is 6 *d.* extra; and you justify that by the fact, first, that the township of Manchester ran the first risk; and secondly, that the parties come to ask it of you, and you do not force it upon them?—Exactly.

567. Have they any public companies?—There are public companies near them in some parts. They might obtain their supply from other sources, no doubt.

568. But they prefer coming to you?—Yes; I can give you one instance in which the Sheffield Railway Company, I think it is, have large works, which they have at Gorton, and they gave up their gas works.

569. You mean their private gas works?—Yes; that shows that the price, at any rate, was not thought to be unreasonable; that they having spent their capital and got their gas works, found it more economical to give those works up and sacrifice the cost of the plant, and take their gas from the Manchester Corporation.

570. Surely, that merely proves that a small production is not equally as cheap as a large production. Now, have you turned your attention to No. 8: "Thus in the case of Manchester, taking the volume of gas produced, as shown by the report of the corporation, at 1,160,000,000 of feet, the profit required to pay the interest of 4 per cent. upon the reduced amount of 347,472 *l.* would be $2\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per 1,000 feet. To pay a dividend of 10 per cent. (to which gas companies are entitled by the Gas Works Clauses Act) on 810,183 *l.*, a profit of 1 *s.* $4\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per 1,000 feet would be required, which is nearly the same as the rate required by the London companies. If the difference between the two rates of $2\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* and 1 *s.* $4\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*, viz., 1 *s.* 2 *d.*, were added to the present Manchester prices of 3 *s.* 2 *d.* and 3 *s.* 8 *d.*, it would make them respectively 4 *s.* 4 *d.* and 4 *s.* 10 *d.*, which is higher than the price charged in London." Have you been at the trouble of considering that statement?—No, I have simply read it; of course I have made no calculations. I see in that statement they certainly pay a compliment to Manchester, because they assume that we can borrow money, and have borrowed money at the rate of 4 per cent. That certainly is, under recent circumstances, scarcely likely.

571. I suppose you have gone upon the average at which you have usually borrowed?—I believe we borrow money upon very advantageous terms, but we have not during the last two years been enabled to do so. We cannot take

Mr. *Joseph Heron.*

27 May 1867.

that 4 per cent. as the uniform rate of interest that is to be paid upon the debt.

572. What has been your average for 10 years?—Probably, taking the whole debt of the corporation, the average has been very low; it has been very little over 4 per cent. We borrow for different departments, and sometimes upon different terms. It would be safer to take 5 per cent. Perhaps I may be allowed to add, that we of course assume that we have a right to obtain 10 per cent. upon our capital.

573. Mr. *Peel.*] Does that include interest?—Yes; of course, that would include interest.

574. And 6 per cent profit?—Yes; 6 per cent. profit.

Chairman.] This is an argument contained in this document which may be good or may be bad, but which we shall be very glad to hear from you, if you should wish to put it before us.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I thought that it would be unfair that Mr. Heron should go from the box without being asked about this point.

Witness.] Allow me to say, as far as this paragraph is concerned, that in Manchester we have to get 10 per cent by the manufacture of our gas, just as a London company would have to get 10 per cent upon their capital; the only difference being that in Manchester there is no subscribed capital, but merely borrowed money. Therefore there is 4 per cent. to be paid in the shape of interest, leaving 6 per cent., assuming that we get about 10 per cent., which is what we fix as the rate we have a right to obtain, to be expended for Manchester.

575. Mr. *Peel.*] That is what you aim at?—Yes; and we get it. We should reduce our price if it were shown by our accounts that we were getting more than about 10 per cent. upon the capital which is being employed in carrying on the works; because, as I said before, the gas ratepayers expect to have their gas at as low a price as they would have it if it were in the hands of a company, or even with competing companies. And inasmuch as 10 per cent. appears to be the maximum dividend allowed by Parliament, we fix that as the dividend, or rather the profit, which we have a reasonable right to obtain.

576. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] And a very sensible plan, Mr. Heron; but upon what capital?—Upon the capital which I have already given you; the value of the works that are included, and the value of the works I ascertained in this way, as I told you, by the account which you will find at page 15 of our annual statement of accounts, where you will find a statement of capital account.

577. Before going into that, for one moment do you estimate your capital as being the value of your works at the time when the valuation of them is made?—Yes; certainly; every year there is a valuation of the works made.

578. And that represents the capital upon which you expect 10 per cent.?—Yes; you will find, if you look at page 15, the surplus assets in the last item there stated to be 200,382 *l.* 5 *s.* 9 *d.*; but in order to get the surplus assets, they previously debited themselves with the amount of the mortgage debt. The amount of the mortgage debt was 347,472 *l.* 2 s. 11 *d* ; and adding that mortgage debt, therefore, to the surplus assets from which it had been previously deducted, it makes the capital practically used for the manufacture of gas on that date, the 24th of June, 1866, 547,854 *l.*

579. Mr. *Peel.*] And it is valued you say each year?—Yes, every year, in order to take off the depreciation, because, of course, the depreciation being taken off that represents the property upon which the profit must be obtained.

580. You deduct the depreciation from your gross profits?—Yes; we deduct the depreciation from our gross profits.

581. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Does that include the value of the land?—Yes; the whole of it. I took credit for a certain amount of working capital. I said it might be taken at 600,000*l.*

582. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Let us have no mistake about this. Your 10 per cent. is calculated upon 547,000 *l.* this last year, and the expenditure upon the works has been 810,182 *l.*?—I would rather it should be taken as I have given it.

583. Have you given the true result?—No; because in my answer already I have

have stated that that is the amount by adding the working capital. It would be fairer to take it at 600,000 *l.* than 550,000 *l.*; but you may take it at 600,000 *l.* as the gross capital which I mentioned upon which we consider that we reasonably may obtain our 10 per cent.

584. That is writing off from the original 810,000 *l.* a couple of hundred thousand pounds?—Yes; or more, because we have added the working capital.

585. Are your gas works rated?—Yes.

586. To the township rates?—Yes; to all the rates to which private companies would be rated. Originally by the Act of Parliament they were exempted from the local rates; but when the corporation made arrangements to practically use the works as though they were the works of the whole corporation, although legally they were the works of one township only, then, as we had works established in our townships where they had to pay poor rates and other rates, the corporation volunteered themselves to repeal the clause which exempted them from poor rates in the township of Manchester, considering that it was fair that as they paid poor rates in one township they should pay in all.

587. That was only two years ago, was it?—It was not very many years ago.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Reilly.*

588. You say that the consumption has increased, in Manchester, to an extraordinary extent since the price was reduced?—It has.

589. Has any proportion of that increase of consumption been amongst the poorer classes?—I really cannot say.

590. But, at any rate, would you consider that the tendency of the reduction of the price would be to increase the consumption amongst the poorer class?—Yes.

Chairman.] As far as that is an argument, we can judge of that ourselves; but, as far as it is a fact, the witness does not know it.

Re-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

591. You say that you take about 10 per cent. as the fair rate of return which you should make; in marshalling that as you spoke of, was there any thing due for sinking fund?—No; we take the sinking fund, I am sorry to say, off the 10 per cent. The 10 per cent., as I have already stated, is the gross profit. The 52,000 *l.* odd is applied, first, in the payment of the interest on the debt; secondly, in providing a sinking fund; and the balance only is available only for improvements for the benefit of the district. So that, out of that 52,000 *l.* odd last year, we only received about 20,000 *l.* for improvements.

592. Mr. *Peel.*] I do not quite understand what becomes of that sinking fund. Is it a reserved fund, that you hold to make up any dilapidations that may occur from time to time; or is it to be applied, at some future time, for general purposes?—No; it is applied at once, either in paying off a portion of the debt which is its strictly legal application, or, if we were requiring further capital, under the powers which we possess and which we might borrow, we should apply that sinking fund, very likely, instead of borrowing. So that it would have the same result; it would reduce the debt by the amount. We do not keep any money in hand. And it is the same with the sinking fund, which is applied in reducing the debt.

593. *Chairman.*] It either saves you raising new capital, or else it pays off debts for the old capital?—Exactly; and as fast as we reduce the debt, either by the application of the sinking fund, or by the application of the depreciation fund, we are, in fact, providing capital, whenever it is required, for rebuilding the works.

594. You are, as a fact, so much richer; you have so much more capital in hand?—Yes; and the more we reduce our debt, the greater facilities we have obtained for providing capital.

595. Then you have the depreciation that you speak of; the waste is by depreciation, I presume?—Yes; to a very large extent; to a much larger extent than I think necessary; but so it is. If we have to build more works, we have simply to borrow again the money required; or if we have to renew them, we have to borrow the money; it is not necessary to keep it in hand.

Mr. *Joseph Heron.*

27 May 1867.

596. Mr. *Webster.*] My learned friend asked you about the cannel coal. I think that was made the subject of an inquiry in 1866, was it not?—Yes; it was referred to in 1866.

597. Is there any doubt as to there being a very large supply of cannel coal?—We have no difficulty whatever in obtaining cannel coal at the present moment. I was not quite certain about it. I thought the question would be sure to be asked, and in order that I might make quite sure, I sent down to ascertain the fact, and also to ascertain from what quarters we did get the coal; and the information which I have got this morning was that there is no difficulty whatever in getting cannel coal, but the price of cannel coal has certainly risen lately; but there is now a considerable supply of cannel coal from Wales, and I believe that has arisen from its being found more profitable to sell cannel than to distil oil from the cannel, which was previously the practice. We also get some from Staffordshire.

598. Are you aware that there is an unlimited supply of what may be called cannel coal in Scotland?—Yes; I have no doubt there is plenty; and I believe there is cannel in Yorkshire.

599. The coal out of which paraffin is made is closely allied to cannel, is it not?—I believe so.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *C. G. Cleminshaw* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Grove.*

Mr. *C. G. Cleminshaw.*

600. You are a Consulting Engineer, residing at Rugby, I believe?—Yes.

601. You were for 14 years manager of the Manchester Gas Works?—Yes.

602. Have you, besides that, paid much attention to gas?—Yes; I have.

603. Were you examined before the Select Committee on the Corporation Gas Bill, last year?—I was.

604. Have you seen any reason to vary the evidence which you gave on that occasion, or do you substantially agree with it?—I agree with it substantially.

605. Have you considered the questions in the Bill now before the Committee, with regard to price and illuminating power?—Yes; I have.

606. What are your views upon that subject; what should be the price at which you think consumers ought to be supplied, and what the illuminating power?—I am of opinion that gas of 18 candle illuminating power should, under proper arrangements, be supplied at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

607. And what dividend do you think could be obtained by the London companies if they were to supply gas of that illuminating power, and at that price?—10 per cent.

608. What are the main grounds upon which that opinion is based?—I base it upon the actual cost of manufacturing of gas at both Liverpool and Manchester, and the relative charges which should be made in London.

609. What is the average price at Manchester?—The actual price is 3 *s.* 2 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, but that is subject to some deductions for large consumers, and the charge for lamps is small, so that I conceive that the general average price will be 3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet. The price of gas in Liverpool is 3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

610. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Nominally 3 *s.*?—Yes; nominally 3 *s.*

611. Mr. *Grove.*] What is the illuminating power; is it the same at both places?—Liverpool supplies cannel gas, I should say, at the same illuminating power as Manchester.

612. What is that?—Manchester is from 22 to 23 candles.

613. When you say cannel gas, is it made exclusively of cannel coal?—Not exclusively; cannel coal mixed with common coal.

614. Have you compared the cost of the production of gas in London with the cost in Liverpool and Manchester?—I have; the cost of cannel coal gas per 1,000 cubic feet, in Manchester, according to the report presented to the corporation, for the year ending 1865-66, was 10·116 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet for coal; and the cost of wages, purification, wear and tear, and loss of gas, was 11·950 *d.*

615. *Chairman.*] Does that include leakage?—Yes; that includes leakage. For profit and other charges on capital 13·934 *d.*, making up the charge of 3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet. The charges in London, calculated from the returns which were presented last year to the Committee, are as follows: cost per 1,000 cubic

cubic feet on coals, 9·358 *d.*; for wages, purification, wear and tear, and leakage, 24·356 *d.*; for profit and other charges on capital, 14·286 *d.*, making up a charge of 4 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

616. Mr. *Grove.*] So that the difference there appears to be in the expenses for wages, purification, and wear and tear?—Precisely so.

617. Will you state what are your views with regard to that item?—The fact which I wish to point out more particularly is this, with regard to the very great difference between those charges last named in Manchester and in London, that there is not a sufficient reason for that difference in the prices. In the management it appears that at Manchester it cost 1·170 *d.*, and in London 2·240 *d.*; in Manchester, the rent and taxes are 0·795 *d.*; in London, the rent and taxes are 1·110 *d.* The difference in those items is very small. With regard to wages, the rate of wages, I believe, is precisely the same in Manchester as it is London; and this excess of cost in London cannot be attributed to the wages, for this reason, that the labour in the retorts in Manchester is simply 3·282 *d.*, and in London, it is 6·506 *d.*; for wear and tear in Manchester, 3·711 *d.*, in London, 6·576 *d.* The point which I wish to bear upon more particularly, is this, that the large additional charge, which I will call the excessive charge, in London, is not to be attributed either to the coal or to the capital, or to the labour, but to the very large cost of distributing the gas, and to the very large leakage in the mains.

618. There seems to be, also, a considerable difference in the wages?—There is a difference in the wages, but that difference in the wages arises from the large cost connected with the distribution of the gas.

619. With regard to that element of cost, do you consider that that is one which may and ought to be reduced?—I do.

620. Will you explain why you think so, and how it is to be done?—I consider that a proper distribution of mains would reduce the leakage of the gas. Since I came into this room I have cast my eye upon the map upon the wall behind me, and I think that that will partly explain what my meaning is. There seems to be there a small district lighted by the Western Gas Company, and two detached districts lighted by the Chartered Gas Company; it must be very apparent that the cost of supplying those detached districts, the cost of laying down the mains and the length of the mains must be very much greater than if those two districts were connected together, and the leakage also must be very much greater. The amount of leakage in London it is impossible to ascertain, because there is no statement of the companies which enables you to arrive correctly at the actual amount delivered into the mains; but I am of opinion that if those facts were stated by the companies it would show very clearly and very distinctly what the real cause of the high price of the gas in London is, namely, the very large leakage in the mains, and the cost of keeping those mains in repair.

621. Have you stated any proposition, for I have not heard all you have said to the Committee, how you would propose that to be remedied?—I will state distinctly that the cause of this large leakage I attribute to the competition of former years. It has been stated, and I presume correctly, that there are 12 mains in Regent-street, 12 in Charing-cross, and there may be three or four in various other streets throughout the metropolis; and it must be evident that the leakage from those mains, the whole of which, at all events, are not now in use, must be very great indeed, and that the cost of keeping those mains and service pipes in repair must also be great; and that if a re-arrangement of those mains were made, there would be a very large saving in each respect, and that would reduce the cost of those items which I have put down under the head of 24·356 *d.*, to the same rate as it now costs in Manchester. There appears to be no sufficient reason why the cost for wages, purification, wear and tear, and leakage should not be the same in London as it is in Manchester, with a proper attention to that particular point. I therefore assume that if those corrections were made, the gas could be supplied by the Metropolitan Gas Works at 3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

622. Mr. *Peel.*] That is without profit?—No; with profit certainly.

623. Mr. *Goldney.*] Is not the carriage of the coal double?—No; the carriage of the coal is the same.

624. Mr. *Grove.*] When you say 3 *s.*, what illuminating power do you calculate upon?—For 12 candle gas. I calculate that the company should make the

Mr. *C. G. Cleminshaw.*

27 May 1867.

precisely same profit as they are making now, and charge 3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet if those corrections were made.

625. *Chairman.*] If we take your figures for coals and profit for London, and leave them untouched, and reduce your figures for wages to the Manchester level, that brings the result to which you point?—Yes; it does.

626. But that would leave the coals in London 9·3 *d.* per 1,000 feet?—It would.

627. Whereas in Manchester it is 10·1*d.*?—Yes.

628. That being from the larger quantity of cannel coal consumed in Manchester?—Precisely so.

629. What illuminating power do you contemplate?—I am contemplating here 12 candle gas simply.

630. The same as that upon which the 9·3 *d.* is calculated?—Yes.

631. Mr. *Grove.*] What would be the increased expense in London provided you were to change the 12 candle gas, which is the present illuminating power, or 13½, and, as we hear it is practicably with an improved burner, into 18 candle gas?—I am coming to that point now; for the purpose of explaining this I will refer to the engineer's estimate, sent to the Board of Trade, with the observations of the metropolitan gas companies, on the 21st of January 1867. I take this from the correspondence between the Board of Trade, the Corporation of the City of London, and the Metropolitan Board of Works, &c., at page 16. First, I wish to point out that this estimate appears to me to be incorrect in three particulars; first, with reference to the charges made for fuel for the carbonization of the coal; secondly, with reference to the quantity of Newcastle coal required to produce 18 candle gas; and, thirdly, with reference to the price of Wigan coal and the price of Wigan coke. With reference to the charges for Newcastle coal, if you refer to the statement you will find that there are nine bushels of Newcastle coke credited in this account, the value of which is 2 *s.* 3 *d.*, but the fuel to carbonize the coal is put down at 12 bushels at 3 *d.*, or 3 *s.*, which is simply impossible, because 2 *s.* 3 *d.* is credited, but 3 *s.* is charged for fuel, so that a ton of coal only produces 2 *s.* 3 *d.*; it is not possible to charge 3 *s.* for that particular description of coke.

632. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Are we talking about the same point; I see it is Newcastle coal, one-fourth of a ton for producing gas and 12 bushels of fuel, the nature of which is not stated?—If you will refer to the credit side, you will see nine bushels at 3 *d.*, which is got out of Newcastle coal, but there is charged 12 bushels of Newcastle coal for carbonizing.

633. It is not mentioned what coal it is?—But there are 12 bushels charged at 3 *d.* per bushel, and it must be Newcastle coal.

634. Could you go through each of them consecutively, as then we could see clearly what you mean?—I will endeavour to make myself plain.

635. The *Chairman.*] Would it be equally convenient for you, with a view to the clearness of your evidence, to begin, as is suggested to you, on the other side of the account, and go through it?—I will do so; I wish merely to point out the errors; and first of all to show the statement——

636. I am in the same difficulty as Mr. Hope Scott is in; I do not see the exact sequence myself; but if it is more clear to you to put it in the way in which you were going to put it, I think you had better do so. Do I correctly understand you to say that those two items, the one on the debtor side and the other on the creditor side, are to be taken in connection with one another, namely, the 12 bushels at 3 *d.* making 3 *s.*, and the 9 bushels at 3 *d.* making 2 *s.* 3 *d.*?—I wish to show that it is impossible to use 12 bushels of coal at 3 *d.* when there are only 9 to be used.

637. But then it is suggested on the other side that it does not follow that the 12 bushels are to come from the same quantity?—But they must come from that quantity, because there is no other produced.

638. Mr. *Grove.*] Can you explain that?—There is no other coke at that price produced, therefore it must come from this coal; and the next point is this, that the Wigan coke is brought out for sale and charged at a very small rate (the inferior coke I will call it), whilst the best coke is used. Now, that is a thing which no practical man would do.

639. In other words, the inferior coke is sold and the better coke is used?—Precisely; whereas a practical man would use the inferior coke and sell the better class of coke. Then, with regard to the mixture of cannel to produce 18 candle

candle gas, three-quarters of a ton of cannel at 27 *s.* a ton is charged, and one-quarter of a ton of Newcastle coal at 16 *s.* a ton. One half of Wigan cannel and one half of Newcastle coal will produce 19½ candle gas. I base this estimate upon practical facts, having used in large quantities Lancashire coal of an inferior quality to the Newcastle coal, and have produced from a mixture of 19½ per cent. of common coal with Wigan cannel 23 candle gas; consequently I estimate that half a ton of Wigan cannel and half a ton of Newcastle coal should produce 19½ candle gas. My estimate as to the cost of producing 18 candle gas is this:—half a ton of Wigan cannel, at 27 *s.*, 13 *s.* 6 *d.* I am following throughout the estimate which has been presented.

640. *Chairman.*] I understand that you are now giving what you hold to be a more correct view of the same thing?—I am. Half a ton of Newcastle coal at 16 *s.*, 8 *s.*; fuel, 12 bushels of Wigan coke, at 5 *s.* per chaldron, 1 *s.* 4 *d.*, making together 1 *l.* 2 *s.* 10 *d.* On the credit side, I put Wigan coke, 1 *s* 8 *d.*; Newcastle coke, 4 *s.* 6 *d.*; tar, 1 *s.* 5½ *d.*; breeze, 2¼ *d*; liquor, 1¾ *d.*; total, 7 *s.* 11½ *d.*, and the quantity of gas produced would be 10,200 cubic feet, costing 1 *s.* 5½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet. The cost of making 12 candle gas, according to the company's estimate, is put down at 11¼ *d.*, and deducting the one from the other, the actual excess of cost in London of producing 19½ candle gas is 6¼ *d.* I have shown that the extra cost in London is 1 *s.* per 1,000 feet, and that if this arrangement alluded to with reference to the mains were made, it could be reduced to 3 *s.* per 1,000 for 12 candle gas, and consequently that 18 candle gas (which I put down at 19½ candle gas nominally, but I will call it 18 candle gas) should be supplied at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, the profit remainining precisely what it is now.

641. Have you yourself used ordinary coal with Wigan cannel in the proportions which you state, or in any other proportions which would enable you to judge?—Yes; I have stated so.

642. With regard to the question of the waste which you say at present exists in the distribution, I suppose it would require some time before that could be remedied?—It would require time.

643. What time do you think would be requisite to make such changes?—It would require possibly from two to three years.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

644. You say possibly from two to three years; and at what cost?—I do not think it would cost anything, because the useless mains that are taken up, and the saving that would be effected by those alterations, would absolutely pay the cost.

645. Do you mean that useless mains are used at present by the companies to whom they belong, or that there are two mains belonging to two different companies which might be cast into one?—I mean that in many cases there may be three or four mains in any particular street.

646. Belonging to the same company?—Belonging to the same or different companies.

647. I wanted to see whether you meant that there was an injudicious use of duplicate mains by the same company, or whether the existence of different companies with different mains was the difficulty?—The difficulty consists in both.

648. Can you tell me in what proportion?—The proportion I cannot possibly tell you.

649. But does it not appear to you to make a very material difference whether they are duplicate mains of one company, or whether they are the mains of duplicate companies?—Under the present arrangements, where there is absolute districting.

650. I suppose you will not shrink from the consequences, as you speak of the present arrangements. Do you contemplate the fusion of different companies?—If you will allow me, I will answer your question. Under the present arrangement of districting, I do not see how there can be the mains of different companies in one particular district.

651. But are there, or are there not; I want to know the facts upon which you base your theory on this subject?—I base it upon this fact, that there are in existence a very large number of mains throughout the metropolis that are

Mr C. G. Cleminshaw.

27 May 1867.

useless, which are partly used for the manufacture of gas; and hence it is that the leakage is so large. There can be no other way of accounting for the immense leakage.

652. Supposing you had to put it in an Act of Parliament before the Committee, how would you word it?—That the mains which are useless should be taken up.

653. But was not that done when the districting was made?—No.

654. Or supposed to be done?—No; I believe it was not, and that the mains still lie in the streets.

655. But are they used?—Partly used. No doubt those that are passibly useful will be used, and those that are not will not be used.

656. You do not mean that any company having duplicate mains, one of which is useless, puts gas into that useless main?—Mains under such circumstances would be partly used, and in some cases, no doubt, it would be convenient to use them. For example, I take the statements of the companies, and they say that there are 12 mains in Regent-street, whereas two would be sufficient.

657. Can you give me a little information about those mains. Whose mains are the 12 mains in Regent-street?—I cannot tell you who they belong to, excepting that I see in whose district they are.

658. Is Regent-street in the hands of one compauy?—Under the system of districting it must be in the hands of one company.

659. Do you mean to say that one company is keeping up 12 mains in Regent-street, where two would do?—I did not mean to say so. I mean that the company might keep up three or four mains for the purposes required, instead of their 10 or 12 mains.

660. I am sorry to say that I do not now understand you. It seems that the case which you put forward is this; that Regent-street is exclusively in the district of one company which has 12 mains in that street, whereas two would be sufficient, is that so?—Yes; it is so.

661. Was that owing to the competition of former years, and other companies coming in there?—It was.

662. Do you suppose that all the mains which were placed in Regent-street for the purposes of competition, have been kept in Regent-street since the districting?—I do.

663. And you suppose that mains are used there for the purpose of distributing gas which might be dispensed with?—Yes.

664. That is your view?—Yes.

665. Then your course would be simply to call upon the company, whichever it is, that supplies Regent-street, to take up those useless mains. I am told that there happen to be two companies down the middle of the street?—There it shows the question still more strongly, because if there are two companies supplying Regent-street with gas, where only one would be sufficient, it is perfectly clear that the mains are twice what is needed for that district, and that the leakage must be twice what it should be.

666. Therefore does it not tend to this, that there ought to be a fusion of the companies, so that at the limits of the districting there should not be that duplication of work which must be incidental to the division between the territory of the two?—Precisely so.

667. Then you are, in fact, for a fusion of all the companies?—I do not wish to carry it so far as a fusion of all the companies; but I think a fusion of the companies would be very necessary and very desirable to reduce the cost of gas.

668. And in other respects, besides this question of leakage?—In other respects also.

669. As, for instance?—In the reduction of the various charges. The mains of one large company would be more conveniently laid than the mains of three companies.

670. In fact you regret that there is not, and has not been from the first, but one company in London, if I understand you aright?—No; I should not regret that. I think that the competition has done a very great amount of harm, and has raised the price of gas to its present price.

671. The competition having been encouraged by Parliament, up to a certain point?—True; that may be so.

672. But

672. But it was so; was it not?—It was.

673. And that the consequences of Parliament having encouraged competition are now being felt by the public?—Precisely so.

674. Of course, I suppose (you speak in a very moderate manner upon all these matters), that the remedy, whatever it is, ought not to be at the cost of the companies, who have invested their money *bonâ fide* upon the encouragement to competition given by Parliament?—I do not quite understand what you mean by the cost of the company.

675. Whatever remedy it may be necessary to apply, in order to do away with the injurious effect of Parliament having encouraged competition, should not be at the cost of the shareholders of the company, but at somebody else's cost, whoever that may be?—But I think too—

676. Will you answer the question?—I will answer it if you will allow me.

Chairman.] Mr. Cleminshaw has come here to give us his opinion practically as to what can be done and what the figures are, but as to the mode in which the remedy is to be carried into effect, he rather leaves that to the Committee than takes it to himself.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Yes, Sir, but if you will be good enough to remember the condition of Mr. Cleminshaw's calculations is, that those arrangements should be made; that is the stepping stone.

Witness.] It is the stepping stone to the real end.

Chairman.] The alteration, the witness says, might be made without cost.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] The alteration in some cases might be easily enough, but the alteration in the sense of taking up the whole of the mains of one company in Regent-street and leaving only one company with mains, these evidently could not be done in so simple a manner.

Witness.] I think it could, and for this reason, that the value of a main is greater than the cost of taking it up.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I do not know whether I am transgressing any rule of the Committee, in the course of my examination.

Chairman.] Not at all; only the Committee feel unanimously as I do, that anything in the nature of argument, we should be very glad to hear from yourself, but we shall not attach the least more weight to the argument, because it comes through the witness; if it is a matter of fact about which he knows anything, we shall be most glad to hear it.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I must test the value of the witness's evidence, by seeing whether he can carry his opinion out logically. It is the opinion of this gentleman, that leakage is a great cause of expense and labour in London.

Chairman.] It is the unanimous opinion of the Committee, that the particular question which you were putting to the witness, and which he declined to answer, he very reasonably declined to answer.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Then I will presume it as a question of fact, more or less however, connected with this witness's opinion.

677. (To the *Witness.*) You have taken your average, have you not, of all the expenses in London as the average of all the companies' expenses?—I have taken the average of coal, and in the average of coal I have excluded the Chartered Company and the Western Company, because they use, either wholly or partially, cannel coal; the Western Gas Company supplies partly Wigan cannel gas.

678. Have you taken, with regard to the rest of the gas companies, the price of cannel gas and the cost of coal?—The Chartered Gas Company supply Wigan cannel coal gas partially, and the other also; consequently, in taking the average of 12 candle gas, it has been necessary to exclude those two companies.

679. And you have got the average of all the rest?—I have got the average of 11 companies.

Mr. *C. G. Cleminshaw.*

27 May 1867.

680. Have you also got the average of labour from the 11 ?—I have taken the average of labour from 13, and the average of everything else, with the exception of capital, and in this I have excluded three companies; the Western, because it is out of the district and supplies Wigan cannel coal gas; the Equitable, because their charges are very large; and the Phœnix, because that also is large; and I have considered that it is fairer to take the general average of the 10 companies that it would be to include those three.

681. *Chairman.*] From the calculations as to coal, you have excluded the Western and the Chartered Companies because they use cannel ?—Yes; I have.

682. And as to capital, you have excluded the three companies ?—Yes; the Equitable, the Phœnix, and the Western.

683. Why ?—Because their charges upon capital are very excessive, and I think the average of the 10 would be fairer than including those three.

684. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Let me understand you; what do you include under the question of capital ?—Upon capital I include all the charges; the charges for dividend and for interest.

685. And where do those appear in the figures which you have given here; is it under the 14·286 *d.* ?—Precisely so.

686. And you have excluded the three companies ?—I have.

687. In taking the cost of labour, have you included the 11 or the 13 companies ?—The 13 companies.

688. And in taking the wear and tear ?—In everything else I have included the 13.

689. Is that the only exception with regard to the capital and with regard to the coal ?—It is so.

690. Let me understand a little more clearly your objection to our form of stating this. Are you aware that with regard to the productive power of cannel, Mr. Hughes told the Committee that "there is a great deal of mixed coal in Lancashire, and there is a great deal of cannel coal that will not make the best gas. There are only one or two seams that will make far higher than 18 candle gas." Do you agree with him about the general characteristic of cannel coal so given ?—The Wigan cannel coal will produce the richest quality of gas; there is really only one small seam that will produce inferior gas.

691. Are you both agreed in dealing here with the Wigan cannel ?—I have taken the Wigan cannel as an example to base my estimate upon, simply because it has been taken by the companies to base their estimates upon.

692. Now, you say that the error on this table of the calculation of the cost of 18 candle gas arises, in the first instance, upon that gas by three-quarters of a ton of cannel being taken to a quarter of a ton of Newcastle ?—Yes.

693. Being a greater proportion of the costly to the cheap material ?—Yes.

694. You know the Manchester gas ?—I do.

695. You know the proportions there used, do you not ?—I do not know them personally, but I have heard Mr. Heron state that the proportion of coal used is, I think, 33 per cent.; and I think that that proves that the proportion which I have taken of Newcastle coal is a very fair and reasonable proportion.

696. You think that the comparison between the gas at Manchester, which is as two to one of cannel to Newcastle coal for 21 candle gas, supports your proposition that half and half would make, as I think you said, 19½ candle gas ?—19½ candle gas nominally, but I will take it as 18 candle gas to the consumer.

697. And that results from your own experience ?—It does.

698. On a large scale ?—Yes; on a large scale.

699. How many thousand feet per annum ?—The trials that I made were made upon some 8,000 or 10,000 tons of coal.

700. Where ?—At the Manchester gas works.

701. Over what period of time ?—Over a period of some two or three months.

702. Do you mean by way of experiment, or in the ordinary course of working ?—In the ordinary course of working.

703. And when was that ?—Some eight or nine years since.

704. What was the cost of cannel at that time, do you remember ?—The cost of cannel was about 14 *s.* a ton.

705. And how long were you at the Manchester works after that ?—Some 12 months.

706. And did you continue all that time to use half Wigan and half Newcastle ?

castle?—We used in the proportion of 19½ per cent. of ordinary coal to produce 23 candle gas.

707. Before you made this experiment (I do not call it an experiment in any invidious sense), what gas had you been making, and out of what material?—Wholly and entirely with Wigan cannel.

708. And what gas had you been giving?—From 25 to 26 candles.

709. And then you changed down to the 19½ per cent. Newcastle as against the balance in cannel, and reduced your gas to 23 candles, if I understand you?—Yes, to 23 candles.

710. Do you know what gas stands at now at Manchester?—I do from their report.

711. At an average of 21 candles and a very slight fraction, I think?—21½ sperm candles.

712. And that while they are using in the proportion of two to one?—Precisely so.

713. What do you understand by fuel to carbonise in this account; the 12 bushels at 3 *d.*; you understand that to mean best coke?—Precisely so.

714. That being charged at how much per chaldron?—3 *d.* per bushel.

715. How much per chaldron?—I am not very well acquainted with the London measures; 3 *d.* for 12 bushels would be 9 *s.* per chaldron. It will be seen that Wigan coke is only charged at 5 *s.* per chaldron, and I consider that that charge is very much too low. The value of Wigan coke is really as great as that of Newcastle coke, that is, for heating purposes.

716. Mr. *Peel.*] For your own use, you mean?—For our own use; but it is not so marketable as the Newcastle coke.

717. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] In comparing the 12 and the 18 candle gas, I believe that the same items have been taken which can be common to both; the fuel to carbonize in the 12 candle calculation, is taken at the same price as in the 18 candle calculation?—It is; I have followed as exactly as possible the statement that is now before me, which is the companies' statement.

718. As a matter of fact, we have not compared those items which you objected to, but we find that the Wigan coke is taken at 5 *s.* per chaldron?—Yes; the Wigan coke is taken at 5 *s.* per chaldron, and the Newcastle coke is taken at 9 *s.* per chaldron.

719. That is common to the two, and we find them put in the same proportions?—Yes.

720. Am I to understand you to say that in producing now 12 candle gas, they are using the fuel which you suppose to be an element of so extravagant a proceeding?—No, that is not correct. I mean to say that their estimate of the cost of making 18 candle gas, and using Newcastle coal at 9 *s.* per chaldron, would be wrong, and that they ought to use the Wigan coke, which they put down at 5 *s.* per chaldron.

721. In making 12 candle gas, could they carbonize at a cheaper rate than they do at present, as shown by the figures there, viz.: 12 bushels at 3 *d.*, which is of course Newcastle coke?—No; I think it is very fairly and reasonably stated.

722. Do you found any object upon the 12 candle table in any other particulars?—I think that the cost which they put down for gas, 11¼ *d.*, is rather excessive.

723. But can you follow that out with any other of the items which they have got in that table?—No; I wish to take the statement precisely as it is.

724. Do you think it is a right one?—I think it is fair and reasonable. If the charges for coal are 16 *s.* per ton, the fuel for carbonizing is a fair rate for fuel, and the products on the other side is fair.

725. Then in what they are really doing at this moment, as regards the tabular statement in those particulars, you do not quarrel with the proceeds of the company?—I am not prepared to answer that question, because I take this simply as a matter of fact, and it is sufficient for me to form the statement which I have formed upon this statement.

726. But you see there are two questions here; one, whether the companies are now producing with economy and the use of all reasonable means; and another, whether with the same reference to economy, and also all reasonable means, they would be able to produce 18 candle gas at another figure. To go from the starting point, which is one of expense, I ask you whether you are

Mr. *C. G. Cleminshaw.*

27 May 1867.

prepared to attack any one item in their actual table with regard to the 12 candle gas; the other is a speculative table, of course?—Of course it is; I do not see which I can attack and which I can approve of. Coal is taken at 16 *s.* per ton, and it is a simple estimate, it is not what it actually costs them. The fuel also is taken at 3 *d.*, which is also a statement, and I do not think that your question bears at all upon this statement, because this is a mere statement. If you ask me whether the cost of gas, which I have put down as costing 9 ¼*d.*, is correct, I should say that it was fair and reasonable. It is very possible that it might be improved.

727. That is what made me ask you particularly. I thought I caught the statement from you that 11 ¼ *d.*; ought to be called 9 ¼ *d.*; was I right in that?—You were right.

728. I am asking in what particular you can point out how you would reduce the 11 ¼ *d.* to 9 ¼*d.*?—The 11 ¼ *d.* is simply an estimate made by the companies.

729. It is based on the experience of the year 1866?—It is a simple estimate.

730. But based on experience?—True; but they take the cost of coal at 16 *s.* per ton. On the other hand, the 9 ¼ *d.* is the actual cost of the year's working.

731. It is stated in this way, "The cost, therefore, of one ton of coal is 8 *s.* 11 *d.*, and as one ton will produce 9,500 feet of gas, it follows that the cost per 1,000 feet is 11 ¼ *d.*" You say that it should be 9 ¼ *d.*, and I ask you to point out anything in this table which your experience enables you to say is incorrectly stated, and which will lead to the reduction you speak of?—I wish you clearly to understand that the one is a statement of the cost of 12 candle gas at certain prices, which is 11 ¼ *d.* That is a simple statement, and the next is that the 9 ¼ *d.* is the actual cost of working throughout the whole year.

732. *Chairman.*] What I understand you to say is this; that this estimate yields 11¼ *d.*, and that in making your comparison in your former estimate you took it from that statement?—Yes.

733. But you say, that if you refer to the published accounts for the actual result of the same year it gives the 9¼ *d.*?—Yes; precisely that is what I say.

734. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Then upon their own tables you say for the same period to which this relates, the experience of the year 1866, the result is not 11¼ *d.* but 9¼ *d.*?—Yes.

735. Have you got the companies' accounts for the year 1866?—I took those accounts which will be found in the report which was presented to the Committee last year.

736. Which were for what year?—For the year 1864.

737. This being a table professing to be based on the experience of 1866?—Yes.

738. Have you tested, by reference to 1864, any particular items in this statement of 1866; I mean as to the price of coal, the cost of fuel, and the amount receivd from products?—No, I have not, it is quite impossible to do so.

739. We have gone through the 12 candle gas table, and you have given me your reasons for reducing the 11¼ *d.* to 9¼ *d.* as derived from the report of the companies of 1864. I want to know whether in your calculation of the 18 candle gas, taking into account not merely the coal, the carbonizing and the products, but the power of producing, and all the charges made at a certain rate, you have had in view the returns of the London companies for 1864?—I should say this, and it would be the most concise way of answering your question, that 18 candle gas should be made at about 15½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

740. But it should be made, you say?—That is, based upon the statement of the companies.

741. In 1864?—Yes, in 1864; but if the price of coal has slightly advanced since the year 1864, then it would cost something more than 15½ *d.*

742 *Chairman.*] Let me see whether I am right. I have got here as the estimate for making gas of 19½ candle illuminating power 1 *s.* 5½ *d.* per 1,000 feet?—Yes; that is right.

743. And that is based upon one-half Wigan cannel, the price being taken from this estimate as 27 *s.*, and one-half Newcastle coal at 16 *s.*?—Yes.

744. And then the other items about the fuel and the residuals follow?—Yes.

745. Those

745. Those are the items upon which you based your calculation?—Yes; they are.

746. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I think you have said that they should be able to sell 1,000 cubic feet at 3 *s.* 6 *d*?—Yes; at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*

747. That takes in all the other questions, the labour, and all the details which you have given as 1 *s.* 5 *d.*, as I understand you, being the question of coal, and those matters which are dealt with in the table. I want to know whether in taking 3 *s.* 6 *d.* as the price at which they could supply 1,000 cubic feet, you have relied upon the prices of labour, &c., in the returns of 1864, or if not, upon what returns?—I have referred to the prices of labour in 1864.

748. In fact, the basis of all your information about the London companies as distinctly from other companies, is their returns in 1864?—Yes.

749. In comparing the Manchester prices with the London prices, had you the same year or had you a different year?—I had the year 1865.

750. But for neither of them had you 1866?—I had not; no returns had been presented, and consequently I could not have them.

751. *Chairman.*] The Manchester return, as I understand, ends in June 1866?—Yes.

752. And the London return of that year is not yet published?—It is not. I was obliged to take the 1864 returns that were made up by the companies; there were no other returns to make calculations from. If I were to make the calculation for the year 1866 it would be more favourable to my estimates, for this reason, that the production of gas would be greater, and that should to some extent reduce the cost per 1,000 feet upon the capital, the management, and every other expense, rent and taxes, and everything else.

753. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Was not the 1865 return within your reach?—No; it was not within my reach.

754. Do I understand you to tell the Committee that 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet is the price at which the companies could produce it at, and the leakage being got over, which I think was one of your conditions also, what it could be sold at by the companies, leaving them 10 per cent. profit on their existing capital?—I will put it a little more generally, for it will include more. If the cost of distribution is properly regulated, then the companies could supply 18 candle gas at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, making the same dividend as they are now doing.

755. Mr. *Peel.*] That is if they use due diligence, I suppose?—Precisely so.

756. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You seem to think (because I do not hear you charge the company with any misfeasance, excepting the state of matters about the mains) that there is a question of 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet difference, which arises upon the leakage?—The leakage, and the cost of wear and tear attendant upon that leakage.

757. *Chairman.*] If the 6*d.* calculation, as I have taken it, is this (and I mention it that there may be no mistake about it): the witness gives various figures which, for Manchester, make 3*s.* for the cost, and then he gives the corresponding figures which, for London, make 4*s.*, and he says that if the item of wages, which at Manchester is 11·9*d.*, and in London is 24·3*d.*, were brought to a level, the payment of dividends on the profit might be the same as it is now in London, namely, 14·2*d.*; but then, in that calculation, Manchester is giving 21 candle power, and London only 12 candle power, and, therefore, in order to raise London up to 18 candle power, he goes through a subsidiary calculation, and he estimates the cost of the fuel for making the 18 candle power in London at 1*s.* 5½*d.*, and from that he strikes off the 11¼*d.*, which in this estimate is charged for the London 12 candle power; and that leaving a difference of 6¼*d.*, raises his estimate from the Manchester 3*s.* to 3*s.* 6¼*d*?—Precisely so.

758. That is the calculation through which you have led us?—Yes.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I want to know what effect upon that calculation the question of leakage has.

Chairman.] It does not touch the 6*d.* The leakage depends upon the difference between the 3*s.* and the 4*s.* The leakage will not be increased by 6*d.*, because it is 18 candle gas instead of 12 candle gas. It is another part of the calculation to which the leakage applies.

759. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We will put it in this way. At what do you estimate the loss by leakage per 1,000 cubic feet, taking into account also the expenses of

Mr. *C. G. Cleminshaw.*

27 May 1867.

labour, &c., attendant upon that?—I estimate the labour at 1*s.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

760. The labour and the loss of gas at 1 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet?—Yes.

761. *Mr. Peel.*] Taking that in London at 1 *s.*, what would be the Manchester leakage and wages?—The Manchester leakage is very trifling indeed.

762. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You estimate the loss of gas by leakage, and the loss of labour incident to this number of mains, and the leakage connected with it, at 1 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet?—I do.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Mitchell.*

763. You have not told us what you put down as the illuminating power that you are to obtain from the Newcastle coal in this half mixture?—As to that I must refer to the statement that I have referred to before; it is termed 12 candle gas; but I assume that really it would be 13 candle gas, in order to provide 12 candle gas for the consumer.

764. What do you put down as the illuminating power in Wigan coal?—Twenty-six candles.

765. And then do I understand you to say that you know that all the cannel from Wigan would produce 26 candle gas?—I do.

766. And how many 1,000 feet do you get from your half ton of Newcastle?—From the mixture, I get 10,200 cubic feet; from a mixture of coal of a similar character, I really did get 10,398 feet.

767. Have you made any calculations as to the quantity of cannel that would be required annually in London?—From 300,000 to 400,000 tons. That is taking a mixture of cannel, not the whole of it Wigan cannel. I merely base my estimate on the Wigan cannel, because the estimate has been based upon that; but I do not think it would be necessary to use entirely Wigan cannel, but other descriptions of cannel which might be cheaper than Wigan cannel.

768. Could you tell the Committee where that cheaper kind of cannel is to be obtained?—Cannel is to be obtained in any quantity from Scotland.

769. But at what price?—I cannot tell you the price; I cannot quote it.

770. Would the price have any influence upon your calculation?—Necessarily it would. It could be obtained from Wales and from Staffordshire; the cannel field is developing in Staffordshire and Yorkshire.

771. First of all as to the Scotch cannel, do you know the price of Scotch cannel?—No, I do not.

772. Supposing it were 60 *s.* a ton, that would materially influence your calculation, I presume?—If it were 60 *s.* a ton, I do not think a gas company would use it.

773. The Bog Head, the last quotation, I find, is 50 *s.* a ton; would that be available to carry out your calculation of 18 candle gas?—It is a difficult question to answer, and it would render necessary fresh investigations. The Bog Head cannel is a very different material indeed to the Wigan cannel.

Chairman.] The witness has taken for his estimate the same estimate that is put in before us on this point, namely, 27 *s.* per ton, and he has only estimated one-half to be cannel, whereas in this estimate three-fourths are taken.

Mr. *Michael.*] You will see that that is upon the assumption of the present price.

Chairman.] He has made his calculation upon an assumption more favourable than that which is contained in this paper, inasmuch as he has taken the same price, and has only allowed one-half the quantity, while in this paper three-fourths of the quantity are allowed.

Mr. *Michael.*] I wish the Committee to have some information as to the quantity of cannel at present available at the present price, and what the consequence would be of a very largely increasing demand.

Chairman.] I only wish to point out that this statement put in on the other side is more favourable to his calculation than his own statement is.

Mr. *Michael.*] You will see by one of the memoranda which has been referred

referred to the Committee on this very subject, that the companies very carefully qualify their statement by mentioning the present price, 27 *s.*

Chairman.] I am very unwilling to stop the cross-examination, because you have a perfect right to test thoroughly the evidence which is put in before us; but we cannot go into a collateral inquiry as to the possible exhaustion of different kinds of coal, and I think that when the witness has taken the actual price from this estimate, and has allowed a smaller proportion of cannel than is taken in his estimate, it is not reasonable to endeavour to push him by asking him what may be the future price of cannel at some remote period of time.

Mr. *Michael.*] If the Committee will allow me, I venture to ask your attention to the 13th paragraph of Memorandum No. 1, where you will find that the companies, when they put down 27 *s.* as the present price, very carefully qualify it by saying, "The above calculation is made upon the assumption that the increased quantity of cannel that will be required will be procurable, and at the price now being paid by the companies, namely, 27 *s.* per ton." This, however, cannot be expected, and it is merely to have a calculation and a good datum before the Committee that could absolutely be proven. The 27 *s.* is put in so as to have some definite datum, but it must not be taken that the companies acknowledge that 27 *s.* will be the future price.

Witness.] May I be allowed to state this; I have taken 27 *s.* per ton as the price of Wigan cannel, because the companies have taken that price; but I believe that Wigan cannel could be got at the present time at 25 *s.* a ton.

774. Mr. *Michael.*] You have based your assumption upon the present price of 27 *s.* per ton?—Yes; but I believe it could be bought at 25 *s.* per ton.

775. And all the cannel must be 25 candle gas power to carry out your idea?—Yes.

776. Can you tell me what the cannel is that is obtainable from North Wales; what is the illuminating power to be obtained from it?—I cannot go into that question. I can say this, that I believe that if the companies were to go into the market now, for cannel, they would get all they required at 25 *s.* per ton, if they contracted for a term of years.

Re-examined by Mr. *Grove.*

777. The only Scotch cannel that has been mentioned is the Bog Head. I dare say you know that the Bog Head is very peculiar?—It is very peculiar.

778. It is doubtful whether it is a coal at all?—It is.

779. There is a question, now pending before the House of Lords, upon that point, which, however, we will not go into now. You say that there are no returns for 1866?—There are no returns for 1866 that have come into my hands.

780. Are there any, do you know?—I do not know.

781. The tables, to which your attention was called, at page 16 in the copy of the correspondence, is headed, "Estimate based on the experience of the year 1866?"—It is.

782. Is there any reason why the actual fact should not be given. Do you know I understand you to say, that you have got the actual expenditure of 1864?—I take the year 1864 simply because it is the paper which was presented before the Committee who sat last year, and I have no means of getting any other paper for the purposes of this calculation.

783. Will you just explain this; I am not quite sure that I understand it, although perhaps the Committee may, from looking at this table. The fuel, to carbonize one ton of the mixture, is taken at 12 bushels at 3 *d.*?—Yes; it is.

784. Then you say that must be a mistake?—I say that it must be a mistake, because the 12 bushels is not produced, but certainly used.

785. Why should they take more fuel than is produced by the mixture; as I understand the nine bushels of coke are produced in the retort?—Precisely so.

786. And this fuel they add to the coke which they produce in the retort?—

Mr. *C. G. Cleminshaw.* 27 May 1867.

If you look at the item above, you will find there are 15 bushels of Wigan coke produced to nine bushels of Newcastle coke. And if they use 12 bushels of coke, they have no right to use 12 bushels of Newcastle coke, which costs 3 *d.* a bushel, when they only produce nine; but they should rather use the 12 bushels of Wigan coke, which is produced at a cheaper rate.

787. You have been asked, and rather driven to the question, whether you would be in favour of the whole of the competition being got rid of; and, in fact, of London being supplied by one company, as I understand my learned friend's question. Quite irrespective of going as far as that, do you think that by better districting, for instance (seeing that the mains of some companies go a long way through the districts of other companies), and by preventing any district being served by two companies, great economy could be produced?—I take up the example of the City of London being supplied by three companies; surely it would be cheaper and better to supply the City with one company instead of three.

788. Take the instance which has been given you before by my learned friend, that in Regent street there are two companies; is there any reason why Regent-street should be supplied by two companies?—Decidedly not; one company could supply it much more cheaply.

789. Again, with regard to the cost, you have told us that the alterations which you suggest would not cost anything, because the advantage gained from them would more than compensate the expense?—Yes.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I think my learned friend is going into the very course of examination which I was stopped upon.

Mr. *Grove*] If I had been aware that my learned friend was stopped on that I should not have gone into it.

790. (To the *Witness*). Did you see the map which was introduced by the gas companies last year?—Yes; I did.

791. Would that show the mains so that the Committee could ascertain from it the number of what you would term superfluous mains?—No; it would not.

792. As to the cost, assuming yourself to be right as to the alterations not costing anything if the two companies were reduced to one, I presume it would not cost any more, because they would either amalgamate or make arrangements by which the cost could be managed?

Chairman.] What we said was this, if it is anything in the nature of a fact which the witness can tell us, we shall be most happy to hear it if it bears upon the subject; but if it is argument, which we should hear with greater effect afterwards from yourselves, we would rather not hear it from the witness.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *John Romans,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Sargood.*

Mr. *John Romans.*

793. You have had considerable experience with regard to Scotch cannel coal, have you not?—I have.

794. Are you agent to the Marquis of Lothian?—I am a cannel coal merchant, taking an interest in vending in England the Marquis of Lothian's cannel.

795. You are agent for the sale of that particular coal; you can tell us, perhaps, generally, is there any scarcity, or any fear of a short supply if it is is wanted?—We do not expect so.

796. You have no ground for fearing that there would be an inadequate supply for any larger demand?—No.

Chairman.] We cannot go into that.

797. Mr. *Sargood.*] You also, I think, have some experience as a gas manufacturer?—Yes.

798. Tell me, what is the illuminating power of the Scotch cannel?—The Marquis of Lothian's cannel is 33·8 candles, and 12,500 feet to the ton.

799. That, I need not say, is a very high power?—Yes.

800. Have you made any calculation that would enable you to tell the Committee

Mr. *John Romans.*

27 May 1867.

mittee at what price gas manufactured from that coal could be sold per 1,000 cubic feet, so as to return a fair remunerative profit on the capital necessary?—At the instance of the Corporation of London, last year, I did; but the coal, at least our coal, has gone up in price since then; it has gone up 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton since I was here last.

801. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] What was it last year?—It was 35 *s.*, delivered in the pool; now it is 3 *s.* 6 *d.* more—38 *s.* 6 *d.*

802. Mr. *Sargood.*] I think the Corporation were then trying to obtain power to make gas themselves?—Yes.

803. At what do you think they could make it and sell it for a fair return?—My impression was that it could be done at 3 *s.*; I do not say that the present gas companies could do that.

804. That was your impression for that purpose. Supposing we were to give them a limit of 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, do you think, having regard to their particular position and to the somewhat increased price of coal, that that would be a fair price?—I must observe that in that calculation, the price of Newcastle coal was taken at 13 *s.*; and I find from an article in the "Gas Journal" about two months ago, that the London engineers say that the Newcastle coal has cost them 16 *s.*; consequently that is 3 *s.* more than I had calculated Newcastle coal to cost in London, so that that has to be added also.

805. Have you taken any means to ascertain whether that 16 *s.* is the actual price?—I have such an opinion of the names appended to this report that I do not believe those gentlemen would put in it what was not correct.

806. Then it is some certified account, is it?—The names of the principal engineers of London are here.

807. Taking those things into consideration, tell me whether in your judgment you consider that the 3 *s.* 6 *d.* which has been talked about would be a fair price?—I dare say it might be done for that; I question if they would pay 10 per cent. at that.

808. Not on their present nominal capitals, as we sometimes call them?—No.

809. The *Chairman.*] What estimates are you come here to lay before the Committee?—The estimate upon which I grounded my calculations last year was 6 per cent. at 3 *s.* Now, if we add 6 *d.* for the increased price of coal, we must still estimate the per-centage to be 6, and if it is to be 10 per cent. we must have more money for the gas.

810. Mr. *Sargood.*] You have not made a fresh calculation?—I have not; my notice of this affair was so very limited that I had not time to do so.

Mr. *John Edward Clift,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Webster.*

Mr. *J. E. Clift.*

811. I BELIEVE you have had a great many years' experience in the manufacture of gas?—I have.

812. Where have you been engaged in that capacity?—I was for a great many years with the Birmingham and Staffordshire Gas Company, and have been for the last eight or nine years consulting generally.

813. I think you are also proprietor of works at Redditch?—Yes; I am.

814. Where is Redditch?—It is about 12 miles from Birmingham, in Worcestershire.

815. Your attention has been a good deal called to the manufacture of gas, and the different proposals with regard to the City of London?—It has at various times.

816. With regard to the various places of manufacture in London, it was proposed, was it not, last year, to manufacture on a site lower down the river?—No; it was on a site nearer to London.

817. Was it somewhere below that red spot on the map?—No; it was nearer to London than the red spot; it was at North Woolwich.

818. Having regard to the existing places of manufacture, would a site of that kind, or somewhere in that situation, present several advantages as regards economy in the manufacture?—I consider great advantages.

819. Were you able to put at all a money value upon the saving in the cost of manufacture, assuming that a site of that sort should be adopted?—I have not the estimates before me now, but at that time the advantage, as far as coal was concerned, was from 1 *s.* 6 *d.* to 2 *s.* per ton. It was also considered to be

Mr. J. E. Clift.

27 May 1867.

advantageous with reference to disposing of the products. There will be a ready market for the coke, and also for the tar and ammoniacal liquor; that is to say, the situation would be favourable for working up those products, and save the cost of conveying them from the works in London to a similar spot to be worked up.

820. May I take it, that from the conclusion you arrived at upon the examination that you gave last year with reference to this question, both as regards the saving in the cost of manufacture in the price of coal, and in the disposing of the residual products, there would be a considerable advantage to be obtained by having works in some such situation as was then proposed?—Yes; I consider there would be a great advantage.

821. One question also about the manusacture of gas; what is the illuminating power of the gas which you make at Redditch?—I make my gas at Redditch entirely from Derbyshire coal, which gives an illuminating power of about 14 candles.

822. Has your attention been called to the manufacture of gas from about three-tenths of Scotch cannel and seven-tenths of Newcastle?—Yes; I based my calculations last year upon those proportions.

823. What result would those proportions give?—In illuminating power they would give 18 candles, three-tenths of Scotch cannel giving 33 candles, and seven-tenths of Newcastle giving 12 candles; the average of the two would give an illuminating power of 18 candles.

824. How many cubic feet per ton would that be?—The Scotch cannel I estimated at 12,000 cubic feet per ton; and I estimated the Newcastle at 9,200 cubic feet per ton.

825. What would be the illuminating power of the Scotch cannel?—The illuminating power was 33 candles, and of the Newcastle 12 candles.

826. And that would give a mean of what?—A mean of 18 candles.

827. That being the way in which you arrive at the 18 candles, what was the cost of manufacture?—Worked out at the prices which I have obtained, and which were verified at the time, the cost of the manufacture of gas was 28·22 *d.*; the cost of purifying, 0·48 of a penny; the cost of supervision and labour in the manufacture of gas was 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet; the wear and tear of retorts, plant, tools, mains, and services, was 2·40 *d.*; the repairing and restoring of meters, which I estimated at 7½ per cent., 0·72 *d.*; the cost of distribution, including the secretary, clerks, and collectors, bad debts, stationery, auditors, chemists, rents, rates, and taxes, was 2·88 *d.*; reserve and contingent fund, 1 per cent.; interest on capital, 5 per cent., and redemption fund 1 per cent., giving 6 per cent. That was on the debit side. On the credit side I put the sale of 1,000,000,000 cubic feet of gas at 3 *s.*; coke for sale, after deducting 20 per cent. for fuel, at 9 *s.* per chaldron, 10·36 *d.*; tar, 1·44 *d.*; ammoniacal liquor, 0·94 *d.*; and that brings the gas out at 3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet; that is allowing 5 per cent. upon the capital of the company. The object of this calculation last year was to show that the manufacture of gas for the Corporation of London, where they did not require a dividend, would pay an interest of 5 per cent. upon the outlay.

828. *Chairman.*] The prices are London prices?—Yes; those are London prices.

829. Mr. *Webster.*] One per cent you put down for the sinking fund?—Yes; and 5 per cent. redemption fund; that made 6 per cent.

830. That is with regard to what you conceived to be the most improved plan, and in the best place for the manufacture of gas for the City of London?—The plans that I prepared were similar to the ordinary plans of gas works; there was nothing novel about them, and they were drawn out to adapt themselves to the situation that we had to work in.

831. Did that estimate which you have given include anything for metre rent?—No; the metres were free.

832. That would be gas, as I understand, of 18 candles illuminating power?—Yes.

833. And of the purity which is prescribed as regards sulphur, and the other conditions?—Yes.

834. And has anything occurred to lead you to think that gas cannot be made for the supply of London at that price?—There is nothing to alter this estimate, except the reports which I hear that the price of coal has advanced since

since last year. I do not know that from my own knowledge. Last year those prices were verified; this year I have not had an opportunity of getting estimates, or getting accurate information.

835. Mr. *Gouldney.*] What are the prices which you have got in that estimate?—The price for Scotch cannel is 35 *s.* per ton, and for Newcastle coal 13 *s.* 3 *d.* per ton.

836. Mr. *Webster.*] You have told us that you have had a great deal of experience in gas making, and I think that you are prepared practically to manufacture gas at that price?—Yes; I think that gas could be manufactured at that price, taking the prices of coal which I have now given.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

837. I need hardly ask a person of your experience the price of gas; manufacture must mainly depend upon the cost of the raw material, or must mainly be influenced by it?—Not in my experience; the price of coal does not materially affect the price of gas.

838. It must make a little difference, I suppose?—It does make a little difference.

839. Am I to understand that your calculations are based upon the price of 35 *s.* for Scotch cannel, and 13 *s.* 3 *d.* for Newcastle?—They are; I have not had time, having only come up from the country this morning, to correct my estimate, or to get new prices. Of course I should not correct my estimate unless I had prices which I knew were quite correct.

840. You are aware that the price of coal has been rather on the rise, and is still on the rise?—I am quite aware of that.

841. Are you aware of the same thing with regard to wages and labour?—Yes.

842. May I ask, will you have the goodness to name what the species of Newcastle coal is which you put down at 13 *s.* 3 *d.*?—It was the Peelaw Main last year.

843. Do you speak of 13 *s.* 3 *d.* and 35 *s.* delivered at the works, or in the Regent's Canal, or the Pool?—I speak of it delivered down at North Woolwich.

844. Which is, in fact, considerably nearer the mouth of the Thames than any of the existing gas works?—Yes; nearer than any of the London gas works.

845. So that there must be something added for carriage before it can reach any of the existing gas works?—I stated that that site would effect a saving of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton.

846. I am not aware that this Bill proposes to alter the sites of the existing gas works, but *per contra*, what would be the cost think you of conveying gas all over London from one extremity of London; from the extreme east of London, from such a site as that?—I calculated that last year.

847. Have you forgotten it now?—I am not prepared with it now; I can tell you the cost of the mains to convey the gas from that site to London.

848. Are you speaking of one company, or of the supply of all London?—I am speaking now of the supply of the City of London.

849. You are aware that the supply of the City of London is, of course, only a very small proportion of the gas which has to be supplied to the metropolis?—Yes.

850. Do you know what the quantity of gas is which is supplied to the metropolis?—I cannot tell.

851. What was the quantity last year that you calculated upon?—1,200,000,000 cubic feet.

852. You know that there are two companies alone which more than double that supply in a year, or about double that supply?—Yes; but you do not suppose that I should attempt to supply the whole of London from that one site; if I were asked to design works for the whole of London, I should not place them all at North Woolwich.

853. You would place them round London, I presume?—Certainly.

854. And your prices are calculated upon the one favourable position of the works which are nearest to the mouth of the Thames?—Yes; but the other side of London, the north side of London, would be favourable for gas works.

Mr. J. E. Clift. I remember designing works on the north side for the supply of the Imperial district.

27 May 1867. 855. I am afraid they did not adopt your designs, did they?—They did not; the Bill was not passed; I mean the Committee did not pass the Bill.

856. It was not the Imperial Gas Company who sought it, it was the parish of Marylebone, I think?—Yes.

857. Mr. Kirkham was the engineer?—Yes; Mr. Kirkham was the engineer.

858. I remember that very well; it was in 1854, I think?—Yes; I merely mention that to show that I should not fix upon that site alone for the supply of both the north and south of London.

859. I suppose you would fix upon any site that your clients suggested would do, would you not?—Certainly not.

860. That is about the mark, I suppose. Now you have told us that you use the Derbyshire coal at Redditch, which produces 14 candle gas; what is the price that you pay for that coal?—At Redditch I pay 13 *s.* 6 *d.*

861. What is the price that you charge per 1,000 feet for your gas?—I charge 5 *s.* and 5 *s.* 6 *d.*

862. You are the proprietor of the works, I think?—I am the propritor.

863. You represent the Redditch works?—The Redditch works are my property.

864. What comes out of the pocket of the gas consumers at Redditch goes into the pocket of Mr. Clift, the proprietor?—Yes.

865. You charge 5 *s.* and 5 *s.* 6 *d.*, and you use coal which produces 14 candle gas; what is the actual illuminating power which the consumer gets at Redditch, it is not quite 14, I think?—The coal varies in quality; we do not always get the same sort.

866. Do not the Redditch people complain that they do not get 12 candle gas?—They do not.

867. That Mr. Clift charges a precious high price for a very poor quality?—Neither of those things; the price at Redditch is quite as low in proportion as the price in London, considering that it is a small works, only producing about 12,000,000 cubic feet of gas a year, whereas the City of London, which is represented as a very small portion of London, take 1,200,000,000 a year, and I think the price of 5 *s.* at Redditch is very moderate compared with 4 *s.* 6 *d.* in the City of London, which it was last year.

868. The price is not 4 *s.* 6 *d.* in London?—It was last year, previous to our coming to Parliament.

869. That was some time before, was it not?—It is 4 *s.* now.

870. The profit there does not go into the pocket of Mr. Clift. I will ask you one other question. You speak of the gas throughout as 18 candle gas. If 18 candle gas is to be provided under penalties, is it not practically 19 or 20 candle gas which must be supplied in order to keep the company safe?—It would not be safe to make it exactly 18.

871. Therefore it must be above 18 candle gas in order to keep the company safe?—It is not necessary to make it above 18 candle gas. If you could insure making it 18 candles illuminating power, you could insure supplying your customers with it.

872. As a practical man, with your works, you must know that in order to be safe there must be a margin of a candle and a half, or something of that sort?—Yes; I know that it would be safer to do so, but I do not think that it is necessary to make it 19½ candle gas to supply 18 candle gas.

873. I am supposing that you have got the Corporation of London, the Metropolitan Board of Works, and some half-dozen vestries to inflict penalties upon you; do you not think it would be necessary to supply 19 candle gas?—I think they ought always to supply over the standard.

874. I observe you suggest a mixture of three-tenths of Newcastle coal, which you think would give 12 candle gas. You do not understand making 10,000 cubic feet of 15 candle gas from a ton of Newcastle coal, do you, as a practical man?—No.

875. Did you ever hear of any gas engineer in the world who could do such a thing from a ton of Newcastle coal; I do not care where you get your coal?—I should say not; I do not know it; I am not aware of 10,000 feet of 15 candle gas being made from a ton of Newcastle coal.

876. At Question No. 194, this question is put to Dr. Frankland: "What are the

the modes of calculation by which you arrive at those conclusions?" and his answer is: "I have taken three modes of calculation. We will call the first No. 1. One ton of Newcastle coal gives 10,000 cubic feet of 15 candle gas; that is, 15 candle gas measured by the new burner, not by the burner contemplated by the last Act of Parliament." I do not care what burner in the world you measure it by that is invented or is going to be invented, but do you believe that you could produce 10,000 cubic feet of 15 candle gas from a ton of Newcastle coal? As a practical man I put that question to you. There are plenty of gas engineers in the room. Measured by whatever burner, is it not, I say, impossible to produce it?—It is not, in my experience, possible.

877. Another thing allow me to ask you. When you talk of the quantity of gas which is produced per ton of coal, is there not necessarily a certain proportion lost in the course of the manufacture in drawing the retorts, and so on?—Certainly there is.

878. What do you consider a fair and reasonable quantity of say 12 or 13 candle gas, to be got from a ton of Newcastle coal?—I consider 9,500 feet is a reasonable quantity.

879. Of from 12 to 13 candle gas?—Yes; my estimate last year was 9,200 feet. My experience is at the Great Central Gas works; that is the quantity which we produced over a considerable extent of working from Newcastle coal, and it was 12 candles illuminating power tested by Dr. Letheby at that period, but that was with the old burner, which would give now 13½ candles illuminating power.

880. You were connected, I think, with the Central Gas Consumers' Company, were you not?—I was connected with it as engineer for a time. I was not engineer to the company, but engineer to the lessees for a time.

881. That was a company started by consumers in opposition to the existing gas companies, was it not?—It was.

882. And they started to supply gas to the City of London 10 or 12 years or more ago, at 4 *s.* a thousand, did they not?—They did.

883. The concern was leased, and you were engineer to the lessees?—I was engineer to the lessees.

884. Was Mr Croll one of the lessees?—No; not at that time.

885. Who were they?—Messrs. Prior.

886. Do you remember that with that price they entirely failed after the first few years to pay a dividend of above 3 or 4 per cent.?—I do not know the financial details.

887. You would rather decline to say that they did pay more?—I do not know at all.

888. Do you mean to say you do not know what dividend they paid, say seven years after their start?—I do not.

889. Do you know the dividend that they paid four years after their start?—I believe they always paid a dividend.

890. But what was it in your time?—I do not remember; I was not a shareholder, and therefore, I had no interest in knowing the dividends.

891. In fact they did raise their price from 4 *s.* to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—They raised the price after the Metropolis Gas Act, 1860.

892. When Parliament declared that 4 *s.* 6 *d.* was a reasonable price, they raised their price to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—After the passing of that Act I know they raised the price to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

893. And do you not know that shortly prior to that rise in price, they were paying 3 or 4 per cent., and not more?—I do not know that.

894. You never heard it?—I do not recollect at all about their dividends.

895. And yet you were the engineer?—I was not the engineer to the company; I was engineer to the lessees for a time.

896. Do you not remember an inquiry into the state in which Messrs. Prior had left the works?—Yes.

897. Do not you remember that it was stated that Messrs. Prior had so neglected the plant that the works were in a deplorable state?—I do not: the works were in a far better state when Messrs. Prior left the works than when they took to them.

Re-examined by Mr. *Webster*.

898. As far as regards that particular company, the result of the legislation of 1860 was to raise the price to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, was it?—After the Act of 1860 the gas companies generally throughout London raised the price to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

Mr. *J. E. Clift.*

27 May 1867.

899. Mr. *Denison.*] Do you mean that to be your evidence?—To the best of my knowledge that is the case. I was only connected with the Great Central Company, and of course I cannot speak for the other companies.

900. Mr. *Webster.*] The others were charging 4 *s.* 6*d.* As to the Great Central, I do not know whether you have seen this return, which is in the Blue Book of 1866, by which the Great Central Company appear to have begun business in 1861; the return is in 1864, and at page 291 of that return I see that the per-centage on share capital began in 1861 at 8 per cent., and in 1864 was 14 per cent.; were you aware of that?—I cannot remember the dividend which the company paid.

901. Whatever may be the burner used, is it a matter of fact that by one kind of burner you obtain a higher kind of illuminating power than by another?—Yes.

902. When you spoke of 9,500 cubic feet of 13 candle gas, was that as tested by the old burner?—Yes; as tested by the old burner.

903. That, I believe, gives a lower illuminating power than the new one?—It gives a difference, as Dr. Letheby stated last year, of a candle a half.

904. My learned friend has asked you various questions about different sites in London; the estimate you gave me last year was founded upon a particular site on the river, which you said was favourable for the purpose?—Yes; I described the site, which was at North Woolwich, near where the green patch on the map is.

905. Are there other sites in different parts of London which, if not equally favourable would be more favourable than the sites of the present company's works?—Yes; much more favourable.

906. If they did not have river accommodation, they would have railway accommodation?—Yes, they would have railway accommocation.

907. And they would have by that means the advantage of getting rid of the residual products?—Yes; they would have the advantage of getting coal into their works without the haulage and lighterage that they have now, and they would have the advantage of getting away the residual products at very small cost.

908. Do you believe that there are other sites in the neighbourhood of London where your estimate of the cost of manufacture would be equally favourable to that which you gave with reference to the one on the river?—Yes; I believe there are.

909. My learned friend asked you several questions about the price of coal, whether coal does not rise and fall; does not the value of residual products also rise and fall?—It does, and it is the rise of the residual products at the time that coal rises that made me say that the price of coal did not affect so materially the cost of the gas.

910. You are aware that there is a considerable difference in the cost of the manufacture of gas at different places, and that the value of the residual products at those places is a very material element in the cost of the manufacture?—It is.

911. Mr. *Lefevre.*] What was the expense of laying down the mains from the proposed site of the City of London works that you spoke of?—The cost of the mains for bringing 1,200,000,000 cubic feet of gas from the site at North Woolwich into the City would be 103,064 *l.*

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *James Beal,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Webster.*

Mr. *James Beal.*

912. You carry on business at Piccadilly?—I do.

913. I believe you have taken some interest in this gas question for many years?—I have.

914. I think you have been a member of several vestries?—I was honorary Secretary to all the vestries of the metropolis engaged in the inquiries, from 1858 to the passing of the Metropolis Gas Act of 1860. I have also acted since the formation of the body of delegates last year, in their communications with the Government in reference to this Bill.

915. I will ask you whether the result of the Act of 1860 was to procure for you, as regards illuminating power and price, what you expected?—It fell short of our expectations.

916. What

Mr. *James Beal.*

27 May 1867.

916. What is your opinion of the operation of that Act as regards the requirements of the metropolis?—I should say, in reference to that, that as far as the companies are concerned, I believe they endeavoured honestly to carry out the provisions of that Act; but the vestries have altogether failed to carry out any one of the duties which the Act imposed upon them. The appointment of chemical examiners by the vestries has fallen almost into disuse. In our own vestry a chemical examiner, Dr. Lankaster, was ordered to report, but when the period came for the money to purchase the apparatus, we failed in obtaining the requisite sum. In other vestries where a chemical analyst was appointed he was generally merely a medical officer, having no special qualifications for the duties imposed upon him. The vestries had power, under the Metropolis Gas Act, of using certain powers contained in the Gas Works Clauses Act of 1847, to inquire into the capital of several companies, to enter into an analysis of their accounts. On no single occasion have those powers been enforced by the vestries, and our representations, therefore, to the Government was that, whilst believing that the companies have not given us the full benefit which the Act entitles us to, the want of motion on the part of the public proceeded from the inaction of the vestries as against the gas companies, we, therefore, were anxious that the Government should arm some stronger and greater municipal power with the requisite authority to deal with those great companies. Therefore we asked them on the one hand not to interfere with the City of London, who are perfectly well able to take care of themselves in their agitation, and, on the other hand, we wish that the Metropolitan Board should be clothed with full authority to prescribe certain regulations under which the companies should act, with power to examine into their accounts, as was the case with the water companies in 1852—a most important question, and possibly the most important which could receive the attention of this Committee, for the result of the inquiry in 1852 was to cause such a re-arrangement of their accounts that the capital of the West Middlesex Water Company was reduced, by investigation, from 830,000*l.* to 506,000*l.*, the Chelsea Water Company from 428,243*l.* to 300,000*l.*, the Grand Junction Company from 523,735*l.* to 354,000*l.*, and the Southwark and Vauxhall Company from 439,662*l.* to 303,600*l.* We felt that that was so important that in our disjointed and peculiar mode of government in London, only a power either supported by the Government, or moved by so great a corporation as the Metropolitan Board, would adequately deal with it. Then we felt that if the companies objected to this, as the supply of gas was in Manchester a matter of municipal action, we were entitled to look upon it in London precisely in the same way, that powers should be given to the Metropolitan Board to arrange terms with the several companies, and take the supply into their own hands. That was the basis of our present application to Parliament, and upon which this agitation has proceeded.

917. As a matter of fact, so far as regards the Act of 1860, you have not obtained the illuminating power, or the means of enforcing it?—We have no means of saying we have not obtained the illuminating power by the reports of men appointed to examine. So deficient has been the analysis, that we are not justified in publicly charging the companies, because we have no evidence to prove it to be the case. Therefore it is the old complaint of all the gas consumers, which was carried on on renewing the consideration of this question, that their gas supply was deficient; that the old burners had to be changed, and that with the change they still did not get the illuminating power which they required, and they threw the blame of it on our gas companies.

918. You are well acquainted with the Special Act of 1860?—Yes.

919. I believe that Act came out of the Committee very different in form from the one in which it went in?—It did; it left the Committee right enough at one stage, but having gone down to the House of Commons, the Bill was recommitted, and the change was so great that we did not know the Bill again; and if our position had been different, if we could have thrown up the agitation without personally, as delegates, being liable for the whole cost of the inquiry, we should have thrown it up.

920. That Bill did not give you the protection which you thought you required?—It did not. The committee had reported, if I remember rightly, in favour of an 8 per cent. dividend, and in favour of a graduated scale of prices, which, I believe, would have been just to the companies, and a great benefit to the consumers. But afterwards, in the House, that was altered to 4*s.* 6*d.*

Mr. *James Beal.*

27 May 1867.

per town, which they were then charging, and to the 10 per cent. dividend which they could only obtain by the Gas Works Clauses Act under competition, and which they were guaranteed under a monopoly.

921. As I understand you, the operation of the Act of 1860 was to afford the companies a guaranteed dividend of 10 per cent.?—Yes; that it should not be greater than 10 per cent., but it gave us no power of obtaining corresponding advantages, for the companies could earn 10 per cent., or they could earn 14 per cent., and we had no guarantee that the 4 per cent., plus the 10, would be devoted to the benefit of the public. They could squander it in the enlargement of their works, in the increase of salaries, and in extravagant expenditure, and we had no means of checking it, or deriving the benefit which we were entitled to.

922. You say that but for the consequences of your being liable to the whole of the expense of the Act, you would have been very glad to have thrown it up?—Yes.

923. How were the costs provided for?—Ultimately the Metropolitan Board was authorised to pay the same, and charge it *pro ratâ*, upon the metropolis.

924. I believe you are aware that it has been proposed to require the companies to give an illuminating power of 18 candles?—Yes.

925. Having reference to the numerous complaints which I think you are aware of, and to which you have referred, do you think that the vestries or tradespeople would be satisfied with 18 candle gas?—I think if you get rid of the difference between common gas and cannel gas, and give us one simple uniform standard of 18 candle gas at a fair price, that would be the best thing we could have in the metropolis.

926. Looking to the operation of the Act of 1860, that which is called the districting system, do you look to one standard of quality and illuminating power at a fair price as the kind of legislation which will give you the protection which you require?—I do; recognising the districting.

927. I understand you to say that, looking at the position of the companies under the districting system, an illuminating power of a certain amount guaranteed to you at a fair price is the protection that you require as against monopoly?—Yes; it is.

928. In giving your own view, do you represent that opinion to be the opinion of a large number of other persons?—I represent, in expressing that opinion, delegates from the Strand District Board of Works, from the parish of Hackney, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, St. George's, Hanover-square, St. Pancras, St. Saviour's District Board of Works, Chelsea, the Wandsworth District Board of Works, Islington, Bermondsey, the Westminster District Board of Works, St. James's, Westminster, St. Giles's District Board of Works, St. Marylebone, the Holborn District Board of Works, Lambeth, and St. Mary, Rotherhithe.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Paper:*—]

METROPOLIS GAS ACT, 1860, AMENDMENT.

NAMES OF DELEGATES.

St. Leonard's, Shoreditch	Mr. Charles Hows, 179, Kingsland-road. Mr. E. Walker, 25, Old-street-road.
Strand District Board of Works	Not expedient to take any action for the present. Second reply, ditto.
Hackney	Mr. G. Gowland, Down, Clapton. Mr. A. Organ, Horton-road, Hackney. Mr. F. M. Hudson, Church-street, Hackney. Mr. T. Garland, Church-street, Hackney. Mr. Holmes, Frampton-park-road, Hackney.
	Dr. Cortis. Mr. Gauntlett. Mr. Jolland. Mr. Redfern. Dr. Iliff.

St. Martins-in-the-Fields	Mr. T. C. Lamb, 77, St. Martin's-lane. Mr. Charles Watherston, 12, Pall-mall, East. Mr. Goodchild, 15, Long-acre. Mr. W. J. Tempany, 11, Long Acre. Mr. Joseph Henry Garlant, 16, Suffolk-street. Mr. W. D. Appleton, 68, Drury-lane.
St. George, Hanover Square	Dr. Brewer, 21, George-street, Hanover-square. Mr. Thomas Stanton, 22, Davies-street. Mr. Joseph Dowden, 281, Vauxhall Bridge-road.
St. Pancras	No action taken.
St. Saviour's District Board of Works	Mr. E. Dresser Rogers. Mr. William Allan. Dr. Shea. On condition no expense is incurred on behalf of the Board.
Chelsea	Decline to appoint delegates. Second reply; letter read to Board.
Wandsworth District Board of Works	Mr. M. Sarson, The Elms, Wandsworth Common. Mr. W. J. Lobjort, Upper Richmond-road, Putney.
Islington	Mr. J. O. Hillman, 19, Belitha-villas, Barnsbury. Mr. S. Smith, 27, Stoke Newington-green. Mr. T. H. Bolton, 14, Thornhill-crescent.
Bermondsey	Mr. William Darnell, Grange-road. Mr. Marens Sharp, White's Grounds.
Westminster District Board of Works	Not prepared to take any action.
St. James's, Westminster	Messrs. Dyer, Weymouth, Beal, Bradshaw, Dolby, and Medwin.
St. Giles's District Board of Works	Letter read to Board.
St. Marylebone	Dr. Bachhoffner. Mr. Taverner. Mr. Surridge.
Holborn District Board of Works	Letter referred to a committee.
Lambeth	Mr. William Jeffree. Mr. John William Stratton. Mr. Edward Campion.
St. Mary, Rotherhithe	Mr. Edmund George Daniell, 3, Bedford-place, Lower-road, Rotherhithe.

929. Just one word of explanation; you said that you considered that that kind of protection is what you require under the districting system; when you use the term "districting;" what do you understand by that?—Such as we have now, the metropolis being allocated to certain gas companies, with a monoply, and no protection in the interests of the consumers.

930. Practically, the operation of the Act of 1860 was to assign under it certain districts to certain companies?—Yes.

931. Or rather it legalised that assignation?—Yes.

932. You have spoken of 18 candle illuminating power as a fair compromise?—Yes.

933. You are aware that a much higher illuminating power exists in other places?—Yes.

934. As regards price, what do you conceive would be a fair price?—In that case I take a very simple test. The City of London offer to supply constituents at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, and the Metropolitan Board have offered to supply London for the same price, and with those two advantages offered to us, I do not think we ought to mention any lower price. They have done so under good advice, and with that advice we are satisfied.

935. You are a little mistaken, I think; the price which the City of London offerred to supply gas for last year was 3*s.* per 1,000?—Yes; and the Metropolitan Board of Works, 3*s.*

936. There has never been any adjustment given of the capital accounts of the gas companies?—There has not been any. That is a matter that I have just referred to, and which we urged very strongly upon the Government, attention being directed to the several capitals of the several companies, it would be found that whilst one sum per 1,000 feet would earn 10 per cent. dividend upon the capital of one company, it would hardly earn 5 per cent. upon the capital of another. We felt, therefore, that what was done with the water companies

Mr. *James Beal.*

27 May 1867.

panies in 1852, should be done with the gas companies now, that is, that they should become virtually one company, or should be treated as such; and we asked the Government to go further, and to agree, if we cannot get one general arrangement with the Metropolitan Board of Works, to force an amalgamation between the several companies in the interests of the public, so as to get rid of the enormous cost of management and the charges which we see in the accounts, owing to a very large extent to the very costly management of those companies.

937. There is no doubt, as a matter of fact, that the conditions of the companies as regards capital are very different?—They are.

938. And probably also the conditions as regards the cost of manufacture?—That I know nothing of.

939. But looking to the present position of the gas companies, are they in some respects in a position analogous to that of the water companies in 1850?—Clearly; that is to say, the water companies came to Parliament for increased powers after a great public agitation for obtaining a pure supply.

940. You conceive, having regard to the actual position of the gas companies, it is essential that something analogous to what took place in reference to the water companies should be done to the gas companies in the interest of the consumers?—It is essential if justice is to be done.

941. And that is with reference to the adjustment of capital?—Yes.

942. The *Chairman.*] All that is evidence in that is, that Mr. Beal represents bodies, a list of whom he has put in, and that that is their wish?—Yes; just so.

943. Mr. *Webster.*] You spoke of the Bill of 1860 as it left the Committee; I think by clause 48, 8 per cent. was put in as a dividend?—Yes; I think that was so.

944. Having the experience which you have had of the Act of 1860, do you conceive that something in the nature of a chemical board, or some stringent measures of that sort must be adopted for the protection of the public?—Yes; as was suggested by the Committee last year, which would amply meet all the requirements of the public.

945-6. I will ask you one other question; you have been interested in the supply of the public lights?—Yes.

947. How do you conceive that they were not dealt with to the satisfaction of the vestries?—The Act of 1860 had an arbitration clause in the event of the parishes and the company not agreeing about the price, that the matter should be referred to arbitration, but some of the parishes are so small that many object to the litigation. The Act throws the costs of the litigation upon the losing party, and it was a very expensive inquiry, as expensive as an inquiry here, and consequently that clause has been inoperative. In our case, in St. James's, the Western Gas Company are supplying us at 3 *l.* 13 *s.* 6 *d.* a lamp, and the Chartered Company at 3 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.* They make no contract with us, they simply write us a letter that that is our price. We are supposed to receive two and a half feet per hour, but I believe if we had a proper kind of burner a foot and a half would be ample for our requirements, and the price should be, including cleaning, 2 *l.* 16 *s.* instead of 3 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.*, which was the alternative that we had given to us when we were arranging with the gas company for the supply of our public lamps.

948. I believe you, and those whom you represent, are of opinion that that should be dealt with by an arbitration clause?—Yes; by an arbitration clause of a simpler kind than that in the Act of 1860.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

949. You stated just now, in answer to my learned friend's question, that the Committed suggested a chemical Board last year; was that the fact?—Their report suggested it.

950. Did it?—I have it in their report.

951. But who suggested it first?—I should imagine it was a witness giving evidence before the Committee.

952. Have you read the evidence?—I have read a portion of it. I cannot say what witness suggested it. It is sufficient if the Committee advised it.

953. Do not you know that we ourselves offered it last year; and the Committee,

mittee, in making their report, accepted our offer?—I do not know who suggested it.

954. Have not you read enough of the proceedings to know that?—I have not read them since last year.

955. When you complain of the vestries not having done their duty, you know also that we have expressed our readiness to substitute the Metropolitan Board for the vestries?—That is assented to now.

956. So far as that goes, you have no grievance?—Not as regards that part of the case.

957. I think you did fairly say that the companies have endeavoured honestly to carry out the Act, but the vestries have not?—As honestly as they can in the absence of a public Act. When you reduced the price 6 *d.* per thousand, I believe if an inquiry had taken place into the accounts of the several companies presented to Parliament by an authorised public Board, the reduction of price then would have been 1 *s.* per thousand feet.

958. Then you mean that we were about half as honest as we ought to be; you say, if our accounts had been properly examined. I think, if I remember rightly, there was some discussion in 1860 about the form in which the accounts should be made up, and we assented to anything the Committee desired in that respect?—Yes; in the form of the accounts. A form of account was prepared by myself, which is now used by the companies.

959. You and I together drew up a very good form, we thought?—I think I did it alone, after the Act was passed.

960. In 1860, you say, the Bill was so altered on re-committal, that you hardly knew it; I think that was what you said?—Yes.

961. It is rather metaphorical, because you and Mr. Wyatt were present the whole time, were you not, when they were dealing with the alterations?—We were, after the Counsel had left the room on the part of the gas companies, till the close of the first report of the Committee; but after it came down again, if I remember rightly, I think you attended.

962. No, indeed. You told me that I need not; that you thought that you could do it better?—I beg your pardon. We had counsel here; but Mr. Baxter, having allowed the Counsel to retire from the room, took up the case, and in about two hours undid the whole of our 21 days' work in the Committee of the House of Commons.

963. Do not you remember that you and Mr. Wyatt together told your Counsel that they need not be present in that discussion?—I do not remember it. I know this, that Counsel left the room, and Mr. Baxter made that great speech, certainly one of the greatest speeches I have heard.

964. Modesty is a very amiable quality; but still the fact is, you were present during all that discussion on the re-committal of the Bill?—I may have been, but I do not remember it to the extent that you put it. The alteration made was this, that our graduated scale was gone, and the price of 4 *s.* 6 *d.* put as a fixed mean; our 8 per cent. dividend was gone, and 10 per cent. dividend was put in.

965. The immediate point is whether you are justified in saying that the Bill was so altered that you were, in fact, quite surprised, and did not know it?—Those two alterations alone made the change so great that the Bill was unworthy of our acceptance.

966. Were you, or not, present when those changes were made?—At present I am in doubt; if the book of the proceedings was handed to me I could see.

967. Of course you know that they were made afterwards?—Yes.

968. Just carry your recollection back to what I remember very well. Notwithstanding that, did you not yourself circulate a letter requesting the persons who were interested in it not to abandon the Bill, but to go on with it in the House of Lords, as a valuable Bill against the companies?—Yes; certainly.

969. That was before the House of Lords?—Yes; in the House of Lords.

Chairman.] I am very unwilling to stop the cross-examination, because I wish to give full latitude to the proper testing of the witness, but, as I understand at the present moment, the question merely turns upon how it happened that the Bill of 1860 was accepted in the form in which it ultimately passed by those who promoted it in its original shape. The Witness

Mr. *James Beal.*

27 May 1867.

told us in his examination in chief, that one principal consideration was, that it would have been a very heavy charge for costs if that course had not been taken, and that influenced him very much, and upon that this cross-examination, as I understand it, is taking place.

Mr. *Denison.*] I want to show that there was a very much more important consideration.

Mr. *Webster.*] It is with regard to the letter I quite agree with the Chairman that the cross-examination is very essential, but his explanation is equally essential, and it is very convenient if a witness has the capacity to do it, that he should give it at the time rather than that I should have to ask it afterwards.

Chairman.] What I understand is, that Mr. Denison wishes to show that they were better pleased with the arrangements at that time than appears to be the case now.

Mr. *Denison.*] That is exactly what I want.

970. (To the *Witness*). It was regretted by you that it was not all that you wished, but you thought that there were substantial advantages against the gas companies?—That there were some substantial advantages to the consumers which justified our going to the Committee of the House of Lords.

971. Just one thing more about the House of Lords; somebody started up in the House of Lords, if I remember right, as opponents to the Bill?—The parish of St. Mary, Lambeth.

972. Notwithstanding that opposition, you and the parties generally who had taken up the Bill carried it on, and, in fact, promoted the Bill against their opposition, did you not?—I acted for the majority of the delegates; I certainly represented it before the Committee of the House of Lords, and I was backed by the majority; St. Mary, Lambeth, was in a minority, and therefore I could not notice their opposition.

973. You and I, I think, did all we could to prevent the Lambeth opposition going on and producing any fruit?—We did.

974. This question was raised, and special evidence heard upon it, whether there had not been an agreement made between you, the promoters of the Bill and the gas companies at some period after the Bill passed the House of Commons?—During its passage Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Baxter were examined upon that point, and a serious divergence of opinion was apparent between them.

975. But the point upon which those two gentlemen were examined was this, was it not, whether there had been a complete agreement about the Bill beween them after it passed the third reading or had been re-committed in the House of Commons?—After the re-committal, and before the third reading.

976. Did not the House of Lords determine that everything that had been so settled by that agreement should not be re-opened?—It did.

977. The Committee know already upon what point the Bill was re-committed; it was upon the arbitrary 8 per cent., was it not?—The 8 per cent. and the sliding scale of charges.

978. I understand that you are now in favour of a uniform scale, not a sliding scale?—I am in favour of 18 candles at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, but I should prefer it as the Bill went into the House of Commons.

979. You mean when it was re-committed?—Before it was re-committed; I am speaking of this Bill as printed; as Sir Stafford Northcote introduced it.

980. You say you are now for 3 *s.* or 3 *s.* 6 *d.* and 18 candles, but you also complain of the House of Commons, in 1860, having abolished the graduated scale which Mr. Sotheron Estcourt gave you; are you now for a graduated scale or a fixed scale?—I should prefer the graduated scale as introduced into the Bill introduced by Stafford Northcote, to the suggestion now made, by way of compromise, of 18 candles at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*

981. When you talk of compromise, who are the parties to that compromise?—The Metropolitan Board of Works, representing one large portion of the metropolis, and the Corporation of the City of London, representing another.

982. Were you in the room when Mr. O'Malley said, the other day, that these two compromisers were conducting their case as one?—I did not hear that; I have seen it in print.

983. The

983. The City of London you say, by their Bill of last year, offered 3 *s.*?—I do. Mr. *James Beal*

984. Do you know whether any people have ever taken shares upon the 3 *s.* basis in any proposed company for London?—That has not formed an element in my judgment. My judgment is, that when two powerful bodies like the Corporation of London and the Metropolitan Board, after having taken the best advice, arrive at the result that they can supply gas to the consumers of London at this price, the consumers are not justified, having so strong and powerful an interest in the matter, in accepting any other settlement. 27 May 1867.

985. The Committee can judge what the meaning of a company or corporation supplying gas is; but when you say they arrived at that conclusion, they put that conclusion in their evidence before the Committee last year, did they not?—The City of London did not. The Metropolitan Board of Works did. The Corporation of the City of London put in 3 *s.*; the Metropolitan declined, I presume, having taken the best advice.

986. *Chairman.*] Yo do not know that, except by their having said so?—I know it by their correspondence presented to Parliament.

987. Do you think they had the best advice?—Yes; I think they had the best advice, that they can supply gas of 18 candles at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* I have faith that that Board would not make such an offer to the public without they felt they were in a position to carry it out.

988. You know, do you not, that the City of London having had the opportunity by all the best evidence they could get of proving their case last year, had their Bill rejected without the Committee hearing the opposition to it?—I am not aware of that.

989. It will appear on the proceedings. As you refer to that correspondence of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and make it your evidence, will you tell me whether it is in the Metropolitan Board evidence that they have offered to furnish this 18 candle gas at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*?—I think it was in the report of the Metropolitan Board, not in their correspondence.

990. Will you shew me where the Metropolitan Board have deliberately offered to anybody to supply gas to London at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*?—At page 5, you will find it stated, "That in the event of Government deciding to introduce a Bill into Parliament for the purpose of establishing a more efficient control of the existing gas companies of the metropolis, and of vesting such control in the Board, the conditions of such control should be as follows, namely, that the maximum price of gas be fixed at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet; that the illuminating power be equal to 18 sperm candles."

991. Where is the offer of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Of course, what they demand there, they are quite ready to do for themselves.

992. Whatever you demand of me you are quite ready to do yourself?—Yes; it would be a very strange demand on my part of you if the other was not equally true of me. You seem to forget that our notice to Parliament had in it the provision that the Metropolitan Board should have power to buy up those gas companies. If they bought them up, of course they must agree to supply the public at the same price that they demand that the companies should do it.

993. I do not remember any such notice being given?—Yes it was; we will give you the notice, if you like. The Bill, as drafted, contained power to the Metropolitan Board of Works to buy up the companies.

994. As you vouch the Metropolitan Board, although you are not a member of it, do you remember the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board being asked this question. I find this at page 15: "Mr. Richardson" (he is a member of the Metropolitan Board), "whilst declaring himself in favour of purchasing the interests of the companies, expressed his fear that if the Board were bound to a lower price, with an increased illuminating power on the one hand, and on the other purchased the interests of the companies, they would be as it were burning both ends of the candle." To this the Chairman replied, "No, we do not. If we control we control" (alluding to the control of the companies), "and if we purchase we purchase; and all these matters" (meaning the illuminating power and price) "will be in our own hands." Were you aware that Sir John Thwaites said that?—My answer to that would be, that this is the memorandum of some debate at the Metropolitan Board, a copy of which is inclosed in this letter to the person to whom it is addressed. This is without

Mr. *James Beal.*

27 May 1867.

its context, and unless I saw the whole debate I should be sorry to express any opinion whatever upon it.

995. I must now turn to 1860 for a different purpose. I think you intimated that from the experience of the Act of 1860, you found that it had done very little for you?—I said it had fallen short of our expectations. I believe that the Act of 1860 has afforded substantial benefit to a certain extent, that is to say, the companies had the right before to charge the incoming tenant with the arrears of gas due by the outgoing tenant, and that was done away with by the Act of 1860. Next, to such an extent has it operated as to the price, that we have had a reduction of 6*d.* per 1,000 feet generally over the metropolis, and that has conferred a boon upon the ratepayers amounting to some hundreds of thousands of pounds.

996. In some cases it has been more than 6*d.*, I believe?—Where the capitals are less, and the gas companies are ably administered, a greater reduction than 6*d.*, but where the capitals are excessive, it has been done with great difficulty. In other cases, the boon has been stinted by the conversion of a large amount of debenture stock at 4 or 5 per cent. into capital stock at 10 per cent., which was a great error, upon the part of one company, at all events; and thereby they have inflicted upon the consumer the cost of the difference between those two interests.

997. Let us have the name of the company and the amount?—I think it is the Equitable Company; as to the amount, my memory will hardly serve me; it is a large amount; I mean over 100,000 *l.*

998. Under an Act of Parliament or not?—I should say by the evasion of this Act of Parliament.

999. That sounds very much as if you knew that there was Parliamentary authority?—No; the company issued notice to their debenture holders that they could convert this debenture debt into stock; and I think that when Parliament had liberally given them 10 per cent. dividend, with a corresponding reduction to us when they obtained that price, it was an evasion of the powers of that Act to convert the debenture debt, which was easily renewable at 5 per cent., into capital stock bearing 10 per cent.

1000. Do you mean, as a man of business, to represent that any company in the metropolis could venture to do such a thing as that unless they were authorised by an Act of Parliament?—I know nothing of their Parliamentary power to do it; the letter stating that did not refer to their Parliamentary power. It made no reference whatever to the Act of Parliament.

Chairman (to Mr. *Denison*).] You ask him whether they have derived this benefit from the Act of 1860, and he says yes. And he tells you what benefit they have derived from it. Then he says that he thinks that the benefit ought to have gone further, and then he mentions what he believes to be the fact, that some company has converted its debenture stock at 5per cent. into capital stock at 10 per cent. We shall see if it is any object of ours to find it out, whether their Acts of Parliament did or did not enable them to do it; but it is not at all likely that the witness should know that.

Mr. *Denison.*] Then he should not use the language he has about it.

Witness.] I expressed my belief that it is an invasion of the Act of Parliament.

1001. That implies that you know the Act of Parliament, of which you say you know nothing?—No.

1002. Mr. *Peel.*] I understand that you know the fact that certain debentures were converted into capital stock at 10 per cent., whereas the debentures bore irterest at 5 per cent.?—I do.

1003. And, as far as your opinion may be worth anything, it is that that is not in strict accordance with the Act of Parliament?—That is the fact, and that is my opinion upon the fact.

1004–5. Mr. *Denison.*] You say that your opinion is that it is not authorised by the Act of Parliament?—It is.

Chairman.] His opinion upon that is not evidence, and certainly cannot be the best evidence.

Mr. *Denison.*] I should think not; but in cross-examination we must take such evidence as we can get.

Chairman.]

Chairman.] No, in cross-examination you can ask any question to test the value of the witness's evidence, but there must be some limit to it.

Mr. *Denison.*] I have tested it as far as I know it, and at the proper time I shall contradict it.

1006. (To the *Witness*). As to the Act of 1860, how many of the 13 companies were under the general Act of 1847 at that time?—None, I think, but the Imperial; the Imperial had come under it in 1854.

1007. If that was so you got the benefit, did you not, of putting the 12 companies under that Act, who were not under any restriction before as to their dividends?—We had that benefit, such as it was.

1008. I put it rightly, do I not?—Yes.

1009. The general Act, under which they were put, gives power to recoup past dividends without any limit of time?—The Act of 1847 did, and we obtained a restriction to six years.

1010. You first put the 12 companies under the Act, and then you put all the 13 companies, who had become subject to the Act of 1847, under a further limitation of six years instead of an unlimited time?—Yes; but we only derive advantage from the Act of 1847, by the vestries complying with what have turned out to be almost impossible conditions. I am referring to the dividend clauses of the Act of 1847, and to the machinery which the Act orders to be put in force to reduce those dividends; or to arrive at a correct statement as to whether they are correct or not, that act is virtually inoperative; and I do not think that you can find a case in which those clauses of the Act have ever been enforced.

1011. Have the companies reduced their price also?—I frankly admit that the companies have reduced their price to that extent.

1012. When they reached 10 per cent?—When they reached 10 per cent., possibly in anticipation of the little agitation which we were going to get up; but still they did do it when the vestries were not performing their duty.

1013. One more thing about the Act of 1860. The majority of the companies were not then subject to any compulsion to give anything like 12 candle gas, and I am not sure whether any of them were?—No; I think not. The Imperial had gone for a special Act, and the Marylebone vestry got it put in. I do not know about the South Metropolitan; I think the South Metropolitan were so. The modern companies, south of the Thames, and the Imperial Company, of course, were bound to that standard of illuminating power.

1014. One more thing; before 1860, the companies could supply, or refuse to supply, at their own discretion, could they not?—They could; but the Act of 1860 provided machinery which compelled them to supply, and at the same time gave them a substantial guarantee against bad debts, by requiring a person to deposit money in their hands beforehand, but the Committee omitted to give us what we demanded, namely, the right to require the company to pay us 10 per cent. upon the money deposited, as otherwise the consumers were finding capital to carry on the business of the company, and we thought it was open to very great abuse, that they might demand such sums which, in the aggregate, would form the capital of any moderate concern.

1015. The companies, in fact, demanded that deposit?—Yes.

1016. Of whom?—Frequently I have had men come to me upon the matters under the Imperial Act, looking upon it as a hardship; and I have informed them that they must comply with the command of the Imperial Company; I do not know the extent of it.

1017. You do not represent that as a common practice, do you?—Whenever they are in doubt they demand it; I have known them to demand it of gentlemen where names have been given of the highest repute.

1018. Just look here; in the olden days their security was that they could recover the debt against the incoming tenant?—No; not that they could, but they did, by refusing to supply him unless he paid it. It was a species of black mail which put a man in darkness unless he chose to pay an exorbitant demand.

1019. But they had that means of doing it?—I was called upon to pay the arrears of gas rate over six years.

1020. They had the means of doing it till 1860?—They had the power of doing it.

Mr. *James Beal.*

27 May 1867.

1021. In 1860 you deprived them of the means of doing it?—Yes.

1022. Then, in doubtful cases, they protect themselves in the only way that Parliament allowed them, namely, by requiring a deposit?—It was a suggestion of our own. You suggested it, at least, and we were very happy to agree to it.

1023. Now then; about the public authorities. The public authorities can call upon them to lay down mains in a way that they could not before, cannot they?—That refers merely to the outlying districts of the metropolis, where it could be imagined it would be a loss to a company to lay a main along a public road in a suburban district which was prescribed as not further than 50 yards from the last lamp-post, which in our parishes, like Lambeth, or St. Pancras, or Hampstead, is an important concession. I am willing to do you ample justice for the good you did; as I took such pains about it I am entitled to look upon it in that light.

1024-5. When you complain of the vestries, that is not the only means that people have of finding out whether they get gas below the standard?—To the ratepayers it is, I think. No gentleman of moderate means may enter upon the perilous undertaking of coming in contact with a great company like the Imperial Company, for if they fail to substantiate their charge they are mulcted in costs.

1026. Why is it more perilous against a great concern than a small one?—Because of the prodigious resources that they have at command.

1027. Do you find in your experience that judges, juries, or arbitrators are in the habit of consulting the interest of great companies?—It is not that; it is that a body of ratepayers cannot go to the expense of calling evidence; you would overlay them by evidence on your side.

1028. I think you said that, under the districting, the companies became virtually one, and that they might save expense, and so on; was I right in that?—Yes.

1029. Do you know what cost all the directors and secretaries of gas works are per 1,000 feet of gas?—I do not, but I could soon take the gross total from the last returns; I did it some years ago, but not of late.

1030. In 1860, whenever there was any contest raised with the gas companies about their being treated ill, and so on, you always repeated this, "We are giving you a great boon by districting, and putting an end to competition"?—We did; we regulated the monopoly.

Re-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

1031. My learned friend has gone through with you what advantages the public might be supposed to have got by this Bill; do you know any other that would have justified your taking it; has he omitted any other advantages?—No; I think he has named all.

1032. As far as regards the illuminating power and the reduction in the price of the gas, and the slight protection of the individual ratepayer, that you did not obtain?—No; that we did not obtain.

1033. One question about this letter. Do you remember that it was Tuesday, August the 7th, when the Bill was in Committee in the House of Lords?—That was about the date; it was two or three days before the House adjourned.

1034. That letter which my learned friend refers to; can you give us a copy of it?—Yes; it reiterates every statement that I have made.

[The Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned to to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

Tuesday, 28th May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

28 May 1867.

Mr. *Webster* applied to the Committee for a decision that the opponents of the Bill should be required to furnish the following returns:—

"Required:—

"1. The Capital of each of the Companies at intervals of, say Five Years, for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing Share and Loan Capital.

"2. Maximum Statutory Dividend (if any) on the whole Capital, or in any part or parts thereof, of each Company.

"3. The actual Dividend paid by each Company for each of Ten Years prior to 1860, and for each subsequent Year down to the present time.

"4. The Amount set aside by each Company in each Year in the same Period as Reserve.

"5. The Amount paid by each Company for Damages in each Year in the same Period.

"6. Price per One Thousand Feet of Gas for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing between Common and Cannel.

"7. Price per Street Lamp per Annum charged by each Company for the same Period.

"8. The Accounts for 1866, under the Act of 1860."

Mr. *Denison* stated that there would of course be no real difficulty with respect to the last item in the list of requirements, but that on all the points his clients would require a little time, and he submitted that it would be sufficient for the purposes of Mr. Webster's clients if the different matters required were returned for 10 years back, instead of 20 years back.

The *Chairman* stated, that though the Committee did not consider it would be proper to ask Mr. Denison's clients to supply that which the promoters could themselves supply from public documents, with regard to that which was not accessible to the promoters in that way, the Committee did not see that there could be any difficulty in producing the required information if it was consented to.

After a few words from Mr. Webster, pressing upon the Committee the importance of having the returns for the whole of the time suggested,

The *Chairman* stated that, as the returns for the whole of the time indicated by Mr. Webster's requisitions would give the Committee information applicable to the whole of the time since the passing of "The Gas Clauses Act, 1847," it was desirable that the returns should be furnished for the time so indicated.

Mr. *Robert Bell*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Webster*.

Mr. *Robert Bell*.

28 May 1867.

1035. You are Manager of the Rochdale Gas Works, I believe?—I am.

1036. For how many years have you been manager of those works?—For 20 years.

1037. To whom do the gas works at Rochdale belong?—To the corporation.

1038. What were the working expenses for the year ending the 31st of March 1866, taking a ton of coal distilled as the unit?—Taking 12,442 tons of coal, the working expenses were 2 *s.* 8½ *d.*; but, taking the working expenses, excluding coal and cannel, it is 6 *s.* 2 *d.* per ton.

1039. The total cost per ton of coal is 6 *s.* 2*d.*?—Yes, excluding the coal.

1040. Now, the coal of that was 2½ *d.*; I mean, that of that 6 *s.* 2 *d.*, 2½ *d.* was coal?—No; it included the coal.

1041. Then the 6 *s.* 2 *d.* includes everything?—Yes.

1042. But 2½ *d.* was for coal, was it not?—No; there is an item of 278*l.* 13*s.* for lime.

1043. Exclusive of coal, the working expenses were 6 *s.* 2 *d.* per ton. Is that so?—No; including coal.

1044. That is what I said?—That is so.

1045. How many tons of coal are there?—12,442 tons.

1046. Just give us what the lime was in the working expenses?—£. 278 13 *s.*

1047. Labour, how much?—£. 2,568 13 *s.* 7 *d.*

1048. Printing and stationery, how much?—£. 94 0 *s.* 3 *d.*

1049. Rates and taxes, how much?—£. 304 7 *s.* 10 *d.*

1050. Repairs, how much?—£. 592 2 *s.* 11 *d.*

1051. Coal, how much?—£.9,385 4 *s.* 2 *d.* for cannel. I should correct that. The cost of lime was 278 *l.* 13 *s.*; labour, 2,568 *l.* 13 *s.* 7 *d.*; printing and stationery, 94 *l.* 0 *s.* 3 *d.*; rates and taxes, 304 *l.* 7 *s.* 10 *d.*; repairs, 592*l.* 2 *s.* 11 *d.*; that makes the total cost of 6 *s.* 2 *d.*, excluding coal.

1052. Now, 6 *s.* 2 *d.* are the working expenses, excluding the raw material?—Yes.

1053. *Chairman.*] 6 *s.* 2 *d.* on what?—6 *s.* 2 *d.* per ton on 12,442 tons.

1054. Mr. *Webster.*] What was the total cost of those 12,442 tons?—Cannel, 9,385 *l.* 4 s. 2 *d.* I have not the number of tons of coal separate; they are in the gross 12,421 tons.

1055. *Chairman.*] If this is to attain any object, that object must be made more clear to us?—The cost of the coal is 212 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.*; that would be about 400 tons of coal out of the whole coal and cannel.

1056. Mr. *Webster.*] What was the number of cubic feet of gas sold in the year?—101,741,000 cubic feet.

1057-58. But you divide out of the cost of manufacture 3,838 *l.*; what does that give per 1,000 feet?—9 *d.*

Chairman.] We want a little increase of illuminating power. Where are we? We have got 12,442 tons of coal and cannel combined, but I suppose it will be necessary that we should have them separately if we are to draw any conclusion from this.

1059. Mr. *Webster.*] What is the proportion of cannel and coal that you use in the manufacture of gas?—During the winter months we use all cannel, but during the summer we use a little coal; that 400 tons seems to be about the proportion.

1060. What proportion is that of the whole?—It is 400 tons in 12,400.

1061. That is about one-thirtieth?—Yes.

1062. You say that the cost of manufacturing 101,741,000 cubic feet of gas is 9 *d.* per 1,000. What is the cost of gas at the consumer's meter per 1,000 feet?—2 *s.* 8½ *d.*

1063. You have not given us the illuminating power. Is your gas regularly tested?—Yes, our gas is regularly tested by Professor Roscoe.

1064. What was that test?—Twenty-one candles; he has tested over that, but call that, full.

1065. Making a reduction from that 21 candles to 18 candles, what would you take off that 2*s.* 8½*d.*?—It would perhaps be 1½*d.* or 2*d.* a candle.

1066. 4 ½*d.*

1066. Fourpence halfpenny for the three candles?—Yes.

1067. That would leave you 2*s.* 4*d.* as the cost of 18 candle gas?—Yes.

1068. What do you take the interest on capital at?—We pay 4½ per cent. on our capital.

1069. But taking it on a ton of coal, supposing you add interest at the rate of 9 per cent. on a capital of 4*l.* per ton?—That would be about 11*d.*

1070. That would be 3*s.* 3*d.* per 1,000 feet?—Yes.

1071. That is a fair estimate of 18 candle gas to pay 9 per cent. on the capital?—Yes, I think it is.

1072. You have a table showing an analysis of the calculations during 10 years, I believe?—Yes.

1073. Is that table correct?—Yes.

1074. That is from the year 1860 to the year 1866?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

1075. Do you make out that your capital is equal to 4*l.* per ton of coal burnt?—No, that is a calculation.

1076. But is that the result of those figures?—No.

1077. But as you give that evidence, how much does your capital work out to per ton of coal?—I have not worked it out.

1078. We can do that?—I calculated that the works could be erected——

1079. But I am talking of what they are. The capital here seems to be 70,000*l.* in round numbers; a little more; "Extension of works this year;" that is capital, I suppose?—That is right. But I should explain this, that when the works were purchased from the late gas company by the Commissioners, they gave a great deal more than the intrinsic value of them.

1080. You think so, as the Halifax gentleman did the other day. What do you mean by "intrinsic value"?—They were valued by a competent valuer at 16,000 *l.*, and the Commissioners gave 27,500 *l.* for them.

1081. On what ground did they do that?—I do not know why.

1082. Somebody must have thought they were worth it. What dividend were they paying then, do you know?—They were paying 10 per cent.

1083. Now, were you not saying that 27,500 *l.* bought those works?—Yes.

1084. And that they were valued at 16,000 *l.*?—Yes.

1085. They were then paying 10 per cent., were they?—Yes.

1086. Were they paying 10 per cent. then?—Either 10 per cent. or more; I will not be certain which of the two.

1087. You were examined in the year 1860, were not you?—Yes.

1088. Will you tell us whether the price of labour at Rochdale is greater or less than it is in London?—It is considerably less.

1089. Is the price of cannel going up or down. I should rather say that it was getting up from those figures?—It is going up.

1090. Have you got the quantity of coal consumed last year?—I have got coal and cannel together; it was 10,443 tons for the year previous.

1091. Is that in your table?—Yes, it is next to the other in the same line. The evidence which I give now is 12,442 tons.

1092. Can you tell us in what proportion the price has risen?—The price which we are giving at the present time is 17 *s.* 4 *d.*

1093. What was it last year?—15 *s.* 10 *d.*

1094. Was 15 *s.* 10 *d.* more or less than it had been before?—It is about the same; the year before it was 15 *s.* 10½ *d.*, and the year before that it was 17 *s.* 4 *d.*

1095. Is all that in the table?—Yes.

1096. Do you mean to say that it is higher now than it was in the year 1866?—The average price of cannel per ton you will find in the table.

1097. But your 17*s.* is not in the table?—No, this table is only made up to 1866.

1098. Then I will put opposite to that 17 *s.* 4 *d.* for the present time, then that will be right?—Yes.

Mr. *Robert Bell.*

28 May 1867.

Re-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

1099. You have paid as much as 17 *s.* 4 *d.* in former years, have you not?—Yes, and more than that.

1100. What did you pay in 1856?—15 *s.* 10 *d.*

1101. Take the year 1864 or 1865, you have paid, at all events, more than 17 *s* 4 *d.*?—It was 17 *s.* 3½ *d.* and 17 *s.* 4 *d.* for two years together.

1102. What years were those?—The years 1863 and 1864.

1103. So that the price of cannel is not dearer now than it was three years ago?—No.

1104. I suppose that the residual products rise in price with the value of the cannel?—I do not think that they do myself; they do not at our place.

1105. Not at Rochdale?—No.

1106. Can you give the Committee the demand for residual products at Rochdale as compared with other places?—No, we have not an extra demand.

1107. Do you mean that other places have a better demand?—Yes, we have had to sell them at 3 *d.* a cwt. in the winter season, or 5 *s.* a ton.

1108. About the value of the works, they were valued at 16,000 *l.*; was that structural value the value as they stood constructed on the ground?—Yes.

The Witness handed in a "Statistical Report of the Rochdale Gas Works."

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that that was all the evidence with which he proposed to trouble the Committee on the subject of illuminating power and price, abstaining from going into the general question, because evidence of that kind was already to be found in the printed evidence referred to the Committee.

Mr. *Denison* (remarking on the absence of Dr. Letheby), stated that he was a little taken by surprise, and that in calling his evidence he should be obliged to do the best he could.

Mr. *John Robert Williamson,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Denison.*

Mr. *J. R. Williamson.*

1109. ARE you a Mining Engineer residing in Edinburgh?—Yes.

1110. Have you been a mining engineer for 17 years?—Yes.

1111. I believe that you have been employed by a good many noblemen and others who have cannel coal on their estates?—Yes.

1112. Is one of the characteristics of cannel coal fields, compared with others, their great irregularity?—Yes, in the Scotch fields.

1113. Can you tell us how far you can generally reckon on any seam extending before you come to a break in it?—

Mr. *O'Malley* objected to the evidence, on the ground that the Committee had already hinted that this subject was not to be pursued.

Mr. *Denison* stated that it was an essential part of his case to show the probability of a great rise in the price of cannel, and that if the other side felt taken by surprise they were at liberty to call other evidence.

The *Chairman* stated that it was not the intention of the Committee to enter upon a separate and independent inquiry with regard to the exhaustion of cannel and coal.

Mr. *Michael,* having referred to what took place the other day, stated that the rise in price and the variations in the supply of cannel were a most important part of his case.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee would not enter into a speculative inquiry with regard to the probable exhaustion or the future price of coal or cannel, but that they were ready to receive facts with respect to actual variations in price.

1114. Mr. *Denison.*] I was asking the witness how far any seams of cannel coal extend, generally, without a fault?—They never extend uninterruptedly for more than two miles.

The

The *Chairman* stated that the evidence was not admissible.

1115. Mr. *Denison.*] In four out of the eight properties for which you act, is the cannel coal already exhausted?—That is only in one particular district: but I have a great many more districts.

Chairman.] I can see no relevancy at all in those questions, except as pointing to that inquiry into which we do not propose to go. We are willing to hear any evidence with regard to the variations which have taken place in price.

1116. Mr. *Denison.*] Has the price of this cannel coal increased in the last few years?—It has.

1117. Now, how much has it increased?—The finest gas coal, the Torbenhill coal, has increased from about 17 *s.* 6 *d.* to 50 *s.*

1118. In what number of years?—In 17 years.

1119. That is a very large increase, from 17 *s.* 6 *d.* to 50 *s.* Can you tell us the increase within a smaller number of years?—It stood for a long time at from about 30 *s.* to 35 *s.*

1120. Until how long ago?—Until within the last two years.

1121. And within the last two years it has risen from 35 *s.* to 50 *s.*?—Yes; about that.

1122. Can you tell us what you believe to be the reasons for that, if the Committee choose to hear them?—Yes.

1123. I understand you to say, Sir, that you do not wish to hear them?—

Chairman.] No; what I have said is very simple; that we will go into the question referred to us, but not into the question of the probable exhaustion of coal and cannel.

Mr. *Denison.*] As you decline to go into the probable exhaustion of coal and cannel, you decline to let this gentleman do what he ought to be pressed to do, namely, to give the reasons for the increase of price. I do not complain of that; but——

Chairman.] Put your question, and we will see.

1124. Mr. *Denison.*] Do you believe that you know the reason of that increase of price?—I think I do.

1125. Now, what is the reason of that increase of price?—I think it is the exhaustion of the fields, very much.

1126. That is about that particular coal; but there are some other coals?—Take the Lismahagow, about 1862 and 1863, the contract price was about 17 *s.* 6 *d.* at the pit; the price is now 25 *s.*

1127. Are those pit prices?—Yes, pit prices. In November last, the gas coal masters of Scotland made an arrangement to rise 12½ per cent. in their prices, and from 12½ to 25 per cent.

1128. I have got a paper here, in which it is stated that those who have not already raised 12½ per cent. have agreed to raise 25 per cent.; those who had already raised their price 12½ per cent. were to raise another 12½ per cent.: that is so, is it not?—That is so.

1129. Have the gas companies in Scotland raised their price concurrently with those?—I can only speak of Edinburgh; they raised their price last year 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

1130. That was before the November meeting, when they agreed to raise the price of cannel, was it not?—Yes, I think so.

1131. There is some cannel in Fifeshire; has that risen too?—Yes, they have all risen.

1132. In about the same proportion?—In about the same proportion, so far as I know; all that I know have risen.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

1133. With regard to this Torbenhill coal, is that used for gas at all?—It has been very much used for gas.

1134. Where?—I believe in London.

1135. Will you tell me the name of any company to whom they supply that coal

Mr. *J. R. Williamson.*

28 May 1867.

coal in London?—I do not know the names of the companies, but I know that that coal has been sent to London.

1136. Can you tell me the name of any gas company that you supply it to in London?—No; I am a mining engineer.

1137. Do you know the name of any gas company to whom that coal has been supplied in London?—No.

1138. Or the name of any gas manufacturer in London, railways, or other people, to whom it is supplied?—I know nothing of the London gas companies whatever; I just know that it is sent to London for gas making.

1139. Will you tell me the name of any other gas company anywhere else that you will undertake to say it is supplied to?—The agents are here; I cannot undertake to say.

1140. Is it not used principally for the purpose of distilling into oil?—Yes.

1141. That is the main purpose for which that coal is used now, is it not?—It is the main purpose now; the price of it has taken it very much out of the market for gas making, and taking it out of the gas market has thrown the demand on other finer gas coals.

1142. Was this resolution that you spoke of in November last?—Yes, the resolution that I spoke of was in November last.

Re-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

1143. Is the Torbenhill coal the same as the Boghead coal?—Yes.

1144. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Is this distillation for oil a recent process?—Not very recent; it has been going on since the year 1850.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *James McKelvey*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Richards.*

Mr. *James McKelvey.*

1145. ARE you a Coal Agent residing at Edinburgh?—I am.

1146. Is your agency chiefly confined to cannel coal?—Yes, chiefly to cannel coal.

1147. Have you had many years' experience as a coal agent?—Twenty-five years.

1148. What sort of quantity per annum are you dealing in?—For some years about 80,000 tons.

1149. Are you familiar with the cannel coal fields of Scotland?—Yes, I know a good deal about them.

1150. Now, has the price of cannel coal during the past few years, according to your experience, risen, or the contrary?—They have risen very much within the last three years.

1151. Do you believe it to be still on the rise?—I believe it is.

1152. Will you give us a notion of the extent to which it has risen in the last three years?—There is an average rise in the best description of cannel, such as the Lismahagow coal for the manufacture of gas, of 7 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton in that description of cannel; that is the best cannel, with the exception of Boghead, for the manufacture of gas.

1153. Have you been in the habit of supplying any of the Lismahagow coals to the London market?—I supply some of the London gas companies with that coal and other coal of a similar quality.

1154. Have you supplied the Western Gas Company with coal of that sort?—Yes, I have.

1155. Do you do so at this moment?—No, they have not had any from me with a very small exception, for some time.

1156. Why is that?—In consequence of the great increase in price.

1157. You speak now of the Lismahagow coal; have you any knowledge of the inferior cannels of Scotland (if you have any bad coal)?—There is an average rise in the second class cannel of about 5 *s.* a ton.

1158. What are you selling that Lismahagow coal at the pit's mouth at now?—The price of the Lismahagow coal at the pit's mouth, I cannot say exactly now; but the price of Lismahagow coal free on board at present, is 32 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton.

1159. You must add to that for the London companies the freight, canal dues, and so on?—Yes.

1160. What

1160. What is the price of inferior cannels?—The second class quality of cannel, which is largely used in London, I think would be from 23 *s.* to 25 *s.* per ton.

1161. Free on board?—Yes.

1162. With freight to be added?—Yes.

1163. That is the second class cannel?—Yes, the second class cannel. There is a rise, I may just mention, of about 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a ton on the third class cannel; but there is not a very great quantity of that sent to the London market.

1164. In short, there is a rise in all Scotch cannel?—Yes.

1165. Do you confirm the statement of the previous witness that the Edinburgh gas companies raised their prices last year?—Yes; I understand that the Scotch companies have raised their prices in consequence of the rise in the price of cannel in general.

1166. I hear my learned friend objecting to your saying, "In consequence;" it was co-incident, at all events?—Yes.

1167. Can you form any opinion of the ground of the rise in price?—

1168. Mr. *O'Malley.*] That is going beyond the limits?—It was in consequence of the scarcity, I suppose.

1169. Mr. *Richards.*] That is your opinion as a coal agent?—That is my opinion as a coal agent, and I think I am right.

1170. Do you supply any of the Boghead coal, or Torbenhill coal?—When that coal was at 35 *s.*, 40 *s.*, and 42 *s.*, I sent it largely to the London gas companies.

1171. What is it now?—The price is now 50 *s.* a ton.

1172. Is that free on board in Scotland?—Yes.

1173. And the freight would be 9 *s.* I suppose?—It is 8 *s.* at the present time.

1174. That is 58 *s.*; they could not be delivered in London under 3 *l.* a ton, I suppose?—About 61 *s.* a ton.

1175. Since this rise in price, has the London demand fallen off?—Very much so indeed; they have fallen back on the Lismahagow and the second quality of cannel.

1176. Have you sent largely to London in the last 10 years?—I cannot condescend on the quantities correctly, but I have sent very largely to the gas companies.

1177. You have been supplying the different companies?—Yes, I have been supplying the different gas companies.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

1178. You say that you have sent to the London gas companies, will you name any of the companies to whom you have sent?—The Chartered Gas Company, the Equitable Gas Company, the Western Gas Company, the London Gas Company, and the City of London Gas Company.

1179. I wish to know how much coal have you supplied to the Chartered Gas Company?—I could not exactly state the quantity.

1180. I will not ask you exactly, but about how much?—It would come to perhaps 150,000 tons.

1181. Within what time?—Within perhaps three years; I guess at the quantity.

1182. How much have you supplied to the Equitable Gas Company?—I have supplied to the Equitable Gas Company perhaps from 3,000 to 4,000 tons a year.

1183. For the last three years?—I think so.

1184. Now you mentioned another company, "The Western?"—Yes.

1185. How much have you supplied to the Western Gas Company?—It might be 1,000 tons a year. I could not exactly say; I am only guessing.

1186. What were the others, the London and the City of London Gas Companies?—I sent a little to them; I could not say what quantity.

1187. A small quantity?—Yes.

1188. Then the "largely" comes, within the last three years, to somewhere about 160,000 tons for the whole of the companies. Now, when was it that the increase of price, the first material increase of price that you spoke of, took place; what was the price three years ago?—I could not exactly say what the price was three years ago.

Mr. *J. McKelvey.*

28 May 1867.

1189. You can give us a notion, cannot you; that may be very important?—The price of the Lismahagow coal I would say three years ago was 22 *s.* a ton free on board.

1190. Are you giving us that as your belief of the fact or as your memory?—No; I know pretty near. I can come pretty near the mark; 22 *s.* per ton, I say distinctly, was the price, or very nearly the price, within a few pence, about three years ago.

1191. That was the Lismahagow coal?—Yes.

1192. Now take the other coals?—The others were wrought in small quantities; the Lismahagow field is a very large field, and there is a very large quantity of coal produced; in the other fields the quantities are not so largely produced.

1193. When did the material rise from 22 *s.* take place in the Lismahagow coal?—It took place within the last six or nine months. I think there would be a rise of perhaps 5 *s.* a ton within the last six or nine months.

1194. Have you supplied any to the London companies since that time?—I have.

1195. To what companies?—I think to the Western a very little, and to the Chartered Gas Company I think a considerable quantity.

1196. How much?—Do you ask the quantity supplied to the Chartered Gas Company within the last six months?

1197. Yes?—I would say 5,000 to 7,000 tons perhaps.

1198. Now do I understand you to say that the rise which you spoke of from 22 *s.* per ton to the price you now state, that the Lismahagow coals are now sold at, took place chiefly about six or seven months ago?—There has been a rise on the Lismahagow coal of about 10 *s.* a ton.

1199. Since when?—Within, I would say, the last five years; three or five years, I cannot say exactly.

1200. But I want to fix the limit if I can, when was that material rise of 10*s.*?—I say that there was a rise of 5 *s.* a ton within the last six or eight months.

1201. Can you speak positively to that?—Yes.

1202. Have you any returns of your sales indicating that?—Yes, I think that I made sales to the Chartered Gas Company at a rise of about 4 *s.* a ton. I think about that.

1203. When was that?—About the month of December or January perhaps.

1204. Are you sure you did?—I am not positive.

1205. Will you undertake to say that you did?—I will undertake to say that within the last nine months I have sold to the Chartered Gas Company, and perhaps one or two other companies, cannel coal of the best quality at a rise of from 4 *s.* to 5 *s.* a ton.

1206. We are speaking of the Lismahagow coal, but you have not told us of any other company except the Chartered Gas Company within the last six or seven months?—I did not say that I had not done so; I am supplying them all weekly, I may say.

1207. What are the companies?—The Equitable; I am supplying them regularly.

1208. Will you undertake to say that you have supplied them within the last seven months at a rise of 4 *s.*?—Yes, I say so distinctly.

1209. Without discount?—Yes, without discount.

1210. I have a particular reason for asking you whether you have done so within the last six months, because when the time is so short your memory will be fresh?—I cannot say exactly, but I say that I have had either a contract or contracts at a rise of at least 4 *s.* a ton.

1211. The contracts are in writing, I suppose?—There is not a doubt about it.

1212. The contracts can be be produced. Was that the Lismahagow coal?—The Lismahagow coal, and coal of that quality.

1213. Was that Lismahagow coal?—I think it was.

1214. You have told us of the rise in the price of gas at Edinburgh. Do you live at Edinburgh?—I do.

1215. When did that rise in the price of gas take place in Edinburgh?—I cannot say positively as to that.

1216. You are a payer there, and payers always recollect. Tell us about when?—No, I cannot.

1217. Can

Mr *J. McKelvey.*

28 May 1867.

1217. Can you tell us within a month?—No.

1218. Nor within three months?—No.

1219. Nor within six months?—No.

1220. Nor perhaps within twelve months?—I know that there has been a rise in the price of gas.

1221. Within twelve months?—I think so.

1222. Will you swear that?—No.

Mr. *Richards.*] The witness is not on his oath.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I beg his pardon; I thought he was.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

1223. You were asked about the prices of the coal supplied to the Chartered Gas Company. You took a contract with that company which ran over a certain length of time?—Yes.

1224. You did not supply them from hand to mouth, from week to week?—No, I made a contract with them for a year, or three or four years.

1225. Then you base your prices on what you believe would be remunerative, looking forward?—Yes.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I did not understand that the witness was a coalowner.

1226. Mr. *Richards.*] Am I right in saying that the rise in the Lismahagow price has been gradual and regular during the last six or seven years?—There was a considerable rise six or seven months ago.

1227. That applies to house coal also, does it not?—Yes.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *John Birch Paddon,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Denison.*

Mr. *J. B. Paddon.*

1228. Are you a Civil Engineer?—Yes.

1229. And are you manager of the Brighton and Hove General Gas Company?—I am.

1230. You have had otherwise a good deal of experience in the construction and management of gas works, I believe?—I have.

1231. In the year 1866 the Brighton and Hove Company had a Bill in Parliament, had they not?—They had.

1232. And I understand that there was a rival Bill of a new company?—Yes.

1233. I suppose I may be allowed to say that, "in consequence" of that rival Bill, the old company consented to reduce its price?—That was one of the reasons, no doubt.

1234. The price had been how much before?—About two years previous the price was 5 *s.*, and then there came a series of reductions, from 5 *s.* to 4 *s.* 9 *d.*, 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, 4 *s.* 3 *d.*, and 4 *s.* It was at 4 *s.* when the Bill was before the Committee.

1235. But those were voluntary reductions, were they not?—I think I may say that they were voluntary.

1236. But surely you know whether they were or not?—They were not in consequence of any legislative measure.

1237. That is what I mean?—They were entirely voluntary in that respect.

1238. Had you then reached your 10 per cent.?—Yes.

1239. Last year you became liable to a reduction to 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, did you not?—Yes.

1240. When did that reduction come into action?—Last June.

1241. Has the reduction of price made more than an ordinary increase in your gas supply?—No; the increase of business has been less since the reduction than for any previous time; for a long time before, at all events.

1242. The majority of the people who wanted gas had got pretty well supplied?—Yes.

1243. So the increase goes on at an increasing ratio naturally?—Yes.

1244. Having obtained that fact, I will ask you what has been the effect of

Mr. J. B. Paddon. 28 May 1867.

the fall in price of 6 *d.* upon your last half-year's dividend?—The effect has been to reduce it from 10 per cent. earned to about 3¼ per cent. earned.

1245. It may be that that is due to something else, but is there any other cause that has been operating?—Yes, there has been an advance in the price of coal.

1246. How much has that price of coal risen?—Taking it per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, the net cost of coals has advanced from 13·92 *d.* in 1865 to 17·14 *d.* in 1866.

1247. But it may be that the price of the residual products had increased in the same proportion?—They did not; they are less; the price of coal has advanced, and the price of residual products has decreased.

1248. Advance in the price of coal, decrease of the return in the residual products, and decrease in price of gas; are those the three things that have produced a decrease in the dividend?—Yes.

1249. Is there anything else that I have forgotten to ask you about?—I think not.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley*.

1250. Which of the gas companies are you for?—The Brighton and Hove General Gas Company.

1251. You had a Bill before Parliament last year?—Yes.

1252. And there was another company also who had a rival Bill?—Yes.

1253. Therefore was my learned friend right in saying that, in consequence of that, your price in gas was reduced?—It was in consequence of our having to accept that Bill, for we were forced to accept it.

1254. You need not have been forced to accept it, need you?—Yes, we had no alternative.

1255. Why?—There were two or three reasons. First of all, the Committee decided to pass the Aldrington Bill, and to establish a competing company in the face of two companies already in competition; next, we had really exhausted our capital powers, and we had a growing demand for gas, and there was no way of meeting that except by getting a Bill with further capital powers. Our district would have been carved up between the two companies, and the property of the shareholders would have been completely annihilated; therefore we had no alternative but to accept that Bill, hard as it was.

1256. Your increased capital was granted for the specific purpose of making a station to supply a particular district, into which you had illegally protruded yourselves?—Only a very small portion of it; in fact that extension had been already made.

1257. *Chairman.*] You cannot try the cause of a Bill of last year over again?—That new capital was not required for that purpose.

1258. Mr. *O'Malley.*] When did you come down to 3 *s.* 6*d.*?—In June, 1866.

1259. Was it at the end of June, 1866, that you came down to that price of 3 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Yes.

1260. That was before you were compelled to do it by the Act of Parliament?—Yes.

1261. What was the reason of your coming down to 3 *s.* 6*d.* before you were compelled to do it by the Act of Parliament?—It was a matter of policy; it was considered desirable to do so for several reasons.

1262. Was that to avoid competition?—Yes, to a certain extent.

1263. Was there any other reason?—Yes, there were other reasons (but I am not at liberty to state them here), under the policy of my directors; it is not relevant to this inquiry.

1264. But, at all events, you had come down to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* before the Act of Parliament compelled you to do so?—Quite so.

1265. And before even you had given notice for your Act?—We had obtained our Act.

1266. Do you mean to say that you did not come down to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* before your Act of Parliament was passed, that is the question?—I will explain; I forget the exact date when the Act passed. I believe it had passed the third reading but had not received the Royal assent; still there was a clause in the Act whereby we were empowered to maintain the price of 4 *s.* until the end of December,

December, so that, practically, we reduced the price six months before we were compelled.

1267. But when was it that you voluntarily reduced your price before that?—

Chairman.] The Witness says that it was in June, but that they were not compelled to do it until December.

1268. Mr. *O'Malley.*] But before your Act of Parliament passed, to what sum had you reduced the price of your gas?—It was at 4 *s.*

1269. You had reduced it to 4 *s.* at that time?—We had.

1270. What was the amount of your capital; because your figures are very extraordinary?—At what time do you mean?

1271. At the time that you reduced it to 4 *s.*?—£.100,000 share capital, and 15,000 *l.* borrowed capital.

1272. Of course you were not paying on the borrowed capital?—We were paying interest on it.

1273. Do you mean to tell the Committee that the effect of your reducing the price of gas from 4 *s.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* brought your dividend upon 100,000 *l.* from 10 per cent. to $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.?—I mean that it was precisely what I stated; that it was one of the three causes which reduced our profit, and the chief cause. The next was an advance in the price of coal, and the third was a decrease in the value of the residual products.

1274. The effect of those three things was to reduce your dividend from 10 per cent. to $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.?—The dividend earned. It is right I should say that we declared a higher dividend than $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., but it was done by drawing from other funds; we declared a dividend of 5 per cent.

1275. Was that on the half year?—At the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

1276. In the course of that year you had a good many extraordinary expenses, had you not?—No, I think not; I think it was rather the other way; in fact, our working was extremely economical during that half year.

1277. "Repair and maintenance of meters, mains, service pipes, and other works;" it is at the rate of 3 per cent. on your whole capital in that year, is it not?—Not quite.

1278. I should say that it was quite that?—I think not; if you take the working expenses, leaving out the coals, and compare the half year ending December 1866 with any previous time, say 1865, you will find that on the whole we worked at a very much less rate and cheaper.

1279. Did you, under the Order of the House of Commons, return your previous accounts?—Do you mean the Order made a few days ago?

1280. I mean *the* Order?—Yes, Captain Gridley's Return.

1281. There was another order made a fortnight ago, was there not?—We have not made that return yet.

1282. But you have not returned any account of this kind under Captain Gridley's Order (*showing a paper to the Witness*)?—No, Captain Gridley's Order was previously to that.

1283. Nor yet for the previous years?—No, we have not been required to do so.

Chairman.] I think there is no need to go further into that matter.

1284. Mr. *OMalley.*] In this return, I find the only thing that is here said with regard to the dividend is, "Dividend paid to the proprietors, 30th June 1866, 10 per cent. on 100,000 *l.* capital"?—That dividend was earned in the half-year ending June 1866.

1285. I beg your pardon, there is an appropriation for the last year of 5 per cent. per annum?—Yes; of which $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. was earned.

1286. Then, in the account which you give, you have only had an opportunity of testing it for about half a year?—That is all, so far as the accounts are concerned.

1287. You said that there was no increase in the consumption?—No.

Chairman.] No; he said that the increase was not so rapid as it had been in former times.

1288. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Is there an increase in the consumption?—Yes.

1289. A large increase?—About 8 per cent. compared with 10 per cent. previously.

Mr *J. B. Paddon.*

28 May 1867.

1290. When you say that you had reduced the price to 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, when had you reduced it to 4 *s.*?—In January 1866.

1291. May I ask, was your reduction to 4 *s.* from 5 *s.* or 4 *s.* 6*d.*?—I have already given that.

1292. Was that at the time when they were agitating in Brighton for a new company?—I think it is very likely it was; but I should like to know the time when they were not agitating in Brighton for a new company.

Chairman.] No doubt, in the prospect of competition they might take certain measures, but that does not help us the least in the world. What I understand you to want to show is the effect of certain reductions on the dividends of the company; the object of the reductions does not signify.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I had another object in view, but I did not wish to state what it was just at the moment; however, the question is answered now.

1293. (To the *Witness*). Again, with regard to the repair, the repair is 3 per cent. on your capital, and more, is it not?—No.

1294. Not on 100,000 *l.* Just look at it; it is 1,676 *l.* 17 *s.* 9 *d.* for the half year?—The capital, at the time to which that refers, was 122,520 *l.*

1295. How much of that was borrowed?—£. 20,000.

1296. Then it does come to 100,000 *l.* still?—Do you mean share capital?

1297. Yes.—Three per cent on 100,000 would be 3,000 *l.*

1298. On the share capital it was 3 per cent.; is that your usual outlay?—Perhaps if I make this explanation it will save many questions. The printed account appears for the first time in the form prescribed under our late Act of Parliament, and it was done at the instance of the corporation; it was conceded at that time as an immaterial thing not worth while seeking to alter; at all events, it was very small in comparison with other things between the corporation and the company; but it is not a form of account of which I approve, and I am not at all responsible for this; the totals here are correct, but the subdivisions —

Chairman.] Is there any object in pursuing in detail the analysis of the accounts of this company; I cannot see the object.

Re-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

1299. Without going into those figures, you can tell us whether the repairs and all those things were unusually great last year?—I think they were, but I can easily give you an explanation; it is, that the wages are exceptionally low; we never made such a return before, but put the two things together, and the average has fallen off.

1300. *Chairman.*] But is the reduction in your dividend due to those three causes which the learned Counsel asked you about before, or is it partly due to some excessive working expenses charged to the revenue in that half year?—It was entirely due to those three causes which I have named, and not due to any excessive expenditure charged on the amount of the revenue in that half year.

1301. Mr. *Denison.*] You were beginning to say that the working expenses as a whole were rather less than usual?—They were considerably less.

1302. I believe you said that the sum which was required to make up the paid dividend was taken from some other fund?—Yes; from a small reserved fund.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Webster* having produced a printed copy of Mr. Beal's letter, and the copy having been inspected by Mr. Denison, the same was delivered in, and is as follows:—

"Metropolis Gas Bill.

"My Lord, 14th August 1860.

"I was present in your Lordships' House this evening, during the discussion of the above Bill. I have had the honour to act as the honorary secretary to the several vestries co-operating in the promotion of the Bill; and

28 May 1867.

and I shall be pardoned by your Lordship if I refer to one or two points, apparently but imperfectly understood.

"The Bill is avowedly a compromise; we bowed to the superior influence organised in the House of Commons, in defence of the interests of joint-stock enterprise, and which, we were informed, was supported by companies representing 500 millions of capital. Against this power, the metropolis, without municipal institutions, and deserted by the Government, was impotent.

"What, then, does the Bill do? As it is, as was ably expressed by Lord Redesdale, we are at the mercy of the companies. By the Bill, it is true, the districting or monopoly is recognised, I may add, per force; but the Bill does regulate, and, to a certain extent, control that monopoly. It admits the metropolis, for the first time, to the provisions of the Gas Works Clauses Act, the standard Act, with all its faults and virtues; it makes the main provisions of the Imperial Gas Act of 1854 general; it adopts the provisions (where applicable) of "The Water Act, 1852"; it enforces compulsory supply, with certain and adequate guarantees; it prescribes a fair standard of purity; it increases the general metropolitan standard of illuminating power—a money value equal to one-sixth; it provides for the settlement of disputes, as to public lighting, by arbitration, and should the price for public lamps be enhanced, we can again appeal to your Lordships' House to establish competition, or to prescribe a maximum; it establishes a simple machinery to settle disputes between the companies and the consumers; and with the aid of Lord Redesdale's Gas Measurement Act, does substantially embody the securities required by the public in the supply of gas.

"The vestries of London are directed to appoint a permanent officer to test the gas. It also directs the companies to erect experimental meters for the same purpose. The latter we do not require, and have little faith in; the former is a substantial guarantee. It provides for the service pipes to be laid up to the premises to be lighted—a guarantee against a growing and great abuse.

"It provides wholesome restrictions on the contracts now forced upon the public.

"It enables the parishes to light and extinguish their own lamps—a guarantee that the prescribed quantity will be at our service.

"It fixes the amount and mode of recovery of penalties for the infraction of any of its provisions.

"It frees the incoming tenant from an existing liability to pay the arrears of his predecessor.

"The remaining provisions, and those respecting price, are the best we could maintain. With the Bill we have protection—such as it is—without it, we have none. We have no guarantee that the Government, or your Lordships' House, could give us a better one; and so long as the metropolis is denied municipal power, we are internally too weak to secure a better one. That there are some amendments still desirable, still anxiously demanded, it would be idle to deny; but at the risk of having again to come to Parliament, after having already appealed in four Sessions, and before four select Committees, we are anxious to secure some legislation at once. The faults of the Bill are sensibly felt; but at this late period of the Session, the metropolis disheartened at the treatment they have received at the hands of the House of Commons and the Government, we should mislead you, if we anticipated legislation, should your Lordships sensibly modify the Bill.

"With all its faults and imperfections, we are content to take it, trusting to time to secure to us the power of adequately measuring our strength against the gigantic monopoly arrayed against us.

"I have, therefore, to beg of your Lordship to use your influence to secure its passing the third reading; and trust, when a Bill is introduced to establish one or several municipalities, your Lordship will be found a supporter. Municipal institutions are the only powerful barrier against the giant joint-stock interest, which is gradually absorbing all other interests in the House of Commons, and are imperatively called for as a measure of protection to the weak and divided interests of the general public.

28 May 1867.

It is also requisite to revise the legislation embodied in the general Acts controlling joint-stock enterprise. Those Acts formed the chief bulwark of the gas monopoly, and demand serious attention.

"I trust, therefore, that the compromise effected in the Commons will be respected by your Lordship.

"I have the honour to be,
"My Lord,
"Your most obedient servant,
"James Beal, Hon. Sec."

Mr. *Alfred Wood*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Michael*.

Mr. *Alfred Wood*.

1303. I believe you are Engineer to the Hastings and St. Leonards Gas Company?—I am.

1304. I think you have been for 27 years manager, and 10 years engineer?—I was assistant manager for 27 years, and for the last 10 years I have been general manager and engineer.

1305. What is the price that you charge at Hastings for gas?—4*s*. per 1,000 cubic feet.

1306. What is the quality?—Fourteen candles.

1307. I will refer you to the evidence given by Dr. Letheby, on the 27th of April 1866, which is at page 77 of the Blue Book. He says: "At the present time at Hastings, they are under every possible difficulty with regard to the manufacture of gas. They have no harbour there, and they are obliged to pay enormously for coal to be landed on their beach. I do not believe they get coal under 15*s*. or 16*s*. a ton. In the next place, they have no means of getting rid of coke. Therefore, they are obliged to produce as large a quantity of gas as they can from a ton of coal; and they are getting 9,500 feet per ton, and they are selling the gas at Hastings for 3*s*. per 1,000." That was an error of Dr. Letheby, was it not?—The fact of our charging 3*s*. per 1,000 was an error.

1308. What were you charging before the year 1865?—We were charging 5*s*. up to April 1865.

1309. After that, what were you charging?—After that, we were charging 4 *s*. per 1,000 cubic feet.

1310. What has been the effect upon your dividend of that reduction?—We have been able to pay only 7 per cent., whereas previously to April 1865, we were paying 10 per cent. I believe that we paid 10 per cent. on the next half-year, because the first half of that year was the productive quarter; the first quarter is the productive quarter; but since July 1865, we have only been able to pay 7 per cent.

1311. Has there been any increase in your supply?—Yes, we have gradually increased our supply.

1312. And yet you have reduced your dividend?—Yes.

1313. Have there been any exceptional expenses to cause that diminution of dividend?—No; for labour and so on we work closer than ever; we have been obliged to drive everything as close as possible.

1314. Have you made any calculation as to what you could supply 20 candle gas for?—I did make a calculation, a short time ago, presuming that I could get the Wigan coal at 26*s*. per ton at Hastings (which I think I could not), and I found that I could not manufacture it under 4*s*. per 1,000 cubic feet; consequently I should have wanted 5*s*. 6*d*. or 5*s*. 7*d*. to have supplied it to the consumers to give me a 10 per cent. dividend.

1315. Have you prepared an estimate of the cost of manufacturing your gas at Hastings at the present time?—I have.

1316. Have you a copy of that statement?—Yes.

1317. What do you make the cost of coal; how many million feet of gas do you make in the year?—81,000,000; it was nearly 82,000,000 last year.

1318. What is your leakage on that?—A little under 13 per cent.; 12¾ per cent.

1319. What is the quantity that you sell?—We sell 71,000,000 cubic feet.

1320. What does it cost you to manufacture; I mean for coal?—You, perhaps, understand that in any calculation with regard to the cost of manufacture,

facture, I take that leakage into consideration, and my figures are those which it costs me at the consumer's meter.

1321. This is an estimate of all the gas that you sell?—Yes; the cost for coal was 19 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton.

1322. What coal is that?—It is principally Newcastle coal, with a small percentage of cannel; it is 14 candle gas.

1323. Do you find it necessary to have a small admixture of cannel?—Yes.

1324. You cannot make the gas from Newcastle coal alone?—No.

1325. How much do you deduct for products?—12·46.

1326. How much does that work out per 1,000 cubic feet?—That works out per 1,000 cubic feet to 28·72.

1327. How many feet of gas do you calculate to every ton of coal?—We make about 9,300 feet, on an average, from a ton of coal.

1328. From your mixture?—From the mixture.

1329. Would it be possible to get 15,000 feet with the same illuminating power?—Oh, dear no.

1330. Not 10,000 feet?—Not 10,000 feet; I could get it at a very low illuminating power.

1331. By raising the heat very considerably, I suppose?—Yes; I could get a larger quantity with less illuminating power; or, reducing the heat, you would get a much smaller quantity, and a higher illuminating power.

1332. How does that work out in the net cost of the coal per 1,000 feet?—The net cost of the coal, after deducting the price for residual products, is 16·26.

1333. What is the cost of distribution and management added to the repairs, rent, and taxes?—The cost of the coal, with the distribution and management, is 34·41; that is added to the 16·26.

1334. That is 18·15 for the difference?—No; that is what I should require for dividend; it is the column above——

1335. But subtracting 16·26 *d.* from 34·41 *d.*, brings it to 18·15 *d.*, does it not?—Yes; but the 34·41 *d.* is the exact cost of my gas, including every expense at the consumer's meter.

1336. But taking 16·26 *d.* from 34·41 *d.*, that leaves 18·15 *d.* for cost of distribution?—Yes.

1337. *Chairman.*] What do you say is the cost of distribution and management?—16·26 *d.*

1338. Then it is the difference between that and 34.41 *d.*?—Yes.

1339. Mr. *Michael.*] What are your other items of cost?—I have no other costs of manufacture; that is what it costs me.

1340. Mr. *Goldney.*] It costs you 34·41 *d.*, of which 16·26 *d.* is net for coal?—The difference between 16·26 *d.* and 34·41 *d.* is the cost of distribution and management.

1341. *Chairman.*] You cannot begin to make any profit until you have received 34·41 *d.*?—No.

1342. Mr. *Michael.*] How much do you require to pay a dividend on your capital?—I want 18·15 *d.* and 2·60 *d.* for interest on borrowed money.

1343. How much for depreciation?—Nearly 2 per cent.

1344. That would make a total of 57·15 *d.*?—Yes.

1345. What are your receipts?—52·51 *d.*

1346. Then you have a deficiency of $4\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* less your 10 per cent?—About that.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

1347. First of all, I will ask you how do you test the illuminating power?—I adopt Dr. Letheby's apparatus for that.

1348. Which apparatus; the apparatus in London?—The same as he has in his own laboratory.

1349. Is it the same as the London apparatus of 1862?—No; it is a new burner, called Dr. Letheby's burner.

1350. Now, how much cannel do you use?—I use from a small per-centage up to 20 per cent., according to necessity. I always keep my gas at 14 candles, and if it goes down the slightest, I keep putting in cannel until it gets up.

Mr. *Alfred Wood.*

28 May 1867.

1351. What is the per-centage of cannel?—From 7 per cent. to 8 per cent. on the average, but I could not bind myself to that figure.

1352. Can you only get 9,300 cubic feet from a ton of coal?—Not from Newcastle coal; you may get 9,500; it varies according to the heat.

1353. You can get 9,500 with the best illuminating power?—Not of 14 candles.

1354. You cannot get that?—No.

1355. You can get 9,500 cubic feet at the very highest illuminating power that is capable of being obtained, from a ton of Newcastle coal, do you know that?—No.

1356. Have you ever tested for that purpose?—Yes.

1357. Do you pay 19 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton for your Newcastle coals?—No, but the mixture costs us that.

1358. How much do you pay for Newcastle coals?—Our Newcastle coals would cost us at this time, I should think, about 19 *s.*

1359. Hastings is not a very good port for the importation of coal, is it?—No; we get our coals in at Whitstable.

1360. How far is Whitstable from Hastings?—It is 47 miles from Hastings, I think.

1361. You first get your coals by sea to Whitstable, and you then get them by rail from Whitstable?—Yes.

Chairman.] That does not signify; all that it signifies to us is what the cost is.

1362. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Have you a town duty on coal?—Yes.

1363. Is that included in the 19 *s*?—Yes.

1364. How much is it?—2 *s.* 4 *d.* 1-8th.

1365. Did I understand you correctly that you charge in your account for expenses of management and distribution 18·15 *d.*?—It is 18·15 *d.*

1366. You put that down for your expenses of management, distribution, and so on?—Yes, and wages.

1367. Do you supply St. Leonards as well as Hastings?—Yes.

1368. What is the population?—I should say that now the population of the two towns was 30,000; I should estimate it at that.

[The Witness withdrew.

Adjourned to Friday next, at 11 o'clock.

Friday, 31st May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT :

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *William Innes*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Denison*.

1369. HAVE you been Engineer to the Phœnix Gas Company for the last 20 years?—I have.

1370. That company was founded in the year 1817, was it not?—Yes.

1371. And incorporated in the year 1824?—The first Act was passed in the year 1820 as the South London Gas Company, and in the year 1824 the proprietary of the South London were all transferred to the Phœnix.

1372. You have three manufacturing stations, Greenwich, Bankside, and Vauxhall, have you not?—Yes.

1373. And you have two gasometer stations, one in Blackfriars-road and one in Kennington-lane?—Yes.

1374. I believe that you supply no cannel gas?—No.

1375. Your capital is 888,620 *l.* expended now?—Yes.

1376. Of that 888,620 *l.* the sum of 204,620 *l.* has been spent since the year 1860, has it not?—The sum of 204,620 *l.* has been spent since the year 1864; we came to Parliament and obtained extended powers in the year 1864, to increase our capital, of which 204,620 *l.* has been raised and expended since the year 1864.

1377. Was there anything between the years 1860 and 1864?—Yes, 63,000*l.*

1378. You mean that there is 63,000 *l.* to be added to the 204,620 *l.*, which you have expended since the year 1860?—£.267,620.

1379. The capital which you say you were authorised to raise in the year 1864, amounting to 360,000 *l.*, is limited to a dividend of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—Yes, it is limited to a dividend of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

1380. The gas rental of your company for the last year, including what you obtained for the residual products, was how much?—£.218,822 had been received for gas rental and the residual products for the year ending Christmas 1866. The accounts have been deposited with the Secretary of State, but they are not published, I believe, yet.

1381. *Chairman.*] That is to say your gross receipts?—Yes; the gross receipts arising from gas rental and the products.

1382. You could not have any other?—Not arising from gas.

1383. But is that your gross receipt, or not?—That is our gross receipt.

1384. Mr. *Denison.*] Is there any interest that you are receiving from a reserved fund, or anything of that kind?—We have a small balance of interest to our credit; about 450 *l.* I think.

1385. You had better mention that, and then there will be no confusion about the accounts?—Interest received 479 *l.* 2 *s.* 10 *d.*, miscellaneous receipts 659 *l.* 14 *s.* 6 *d.*

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1386. Are those your gross receipts?—They are.

1387. Now the working expenses of the company for the same time were how much?—£.150,363.

1388. Your net profits were how much?—£.68,458.

1389. All that will appear by the Secretary of State's accounts as soon as they are published?—They are made out.

1390. They are preparing them to be given in to the Committee under the order of the other day?—Yes.

1391. The Phœnix district comprises a great deal of what may be called the suburban parts of London?—Yes, it does on the south side of the Thames exclusively, extending from Charlton, including Blackheath, Lee, Lewisham, Kidbrook, and Southwark to Clapham Common, Wandsworth Common, and Streatham; they are quite suburban districts.

1392. Is the expenditure of capital for supplying such districts very much more than it is in the thicker parts of town?—Yes, very much more.

1393. On that account you were allowed a difference in the year 1860?—Yes, a differential price of 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

1394. Is it essential that a differential price should be maintained?—It is essential that some difference should be maintained.

1395. When the Gas Act of 1860 was passed, what were you charging in the town districts?—We were charging 4 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet in the town districts, and 5 *s.* in the suburban districts, without meter rents.

1396. Do you mean that you charge meter rents besides?—No, we do not now.

1397. Did you then?—No.

1398. That price included the use of the meter?—Yes.

1399. And does now?—It does now.

1400. The difference apparently made in the year 1860 was this, that your 5 *s.* charge for your suburban districts was reduced?—It was reduced to 4 *s.* 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet in the year 1865.

1401. *Chairman.*] The question is, what was the change made in the year 1860?—On the passing of the Act in the year 1860 a general reduction of 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet was made over all the districts.

1402. Mr. *Denison.*] But that was voluntary, was it not?—Yes.

1403. There was no alteration made by Act of Parliament, but in consequence of that Act you reduced the price in that way?—Yes; the first operation after the Act was to take 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet off the whole supply.

1404. *Chairman.*] Was that statutory or not?—No; it was done in anticipation of the requirements of the public.

1405. The Act of 1860 left you with power to charge 4 *s.* 6 *d.* and 5 *s.*?—Yes, it left us with power to charge 4 *s.* 6 *d.* and 5 *s.*

1406. And immediately afterwards you made that reduction to 4 *s.* 3 *d.* and 4 *s.* 9 *d.* voluntarily?—Yes, we did.

1407. Mr. *Denison.*] In the year 1845 you reduced again the town price to 4 *s.*, and the suburban price to 4 *s.* 3*d.*, did you not?—We reduced the town price to 4 *s.*, and extended the limits of the supply through the whole of the parish of Lambeth, and increased by that means the area of the 4 *s.* price, leaving the suburban districts still at 4 *s.* 3*d.*

1408. *Chairman.*] You have stated that you voluntarily reduced your price in 1860 to 4 *s.* 3 *d.* and 4 *s.* 9*d.*?—Yes.

1409. What have you done since?—In the year 1865 we extended the town district, and reduced the price to 4 *s.*, and we also reduced the price for the suburban district to 4 *s.* 3 *d.*, taking 6 *d.* per 1,000 off.

1410. Mr. *Denison.*] In fact, Lambeth obtained what you may call a double advantage; they were made town instead of country, and the price was reduced below what the town price had been?—Just so.

1411. Now, what is the rental per mile of the mains in your town districts?—In St. Saviour's and St. George's, Southwark, we would have about 4,000 *l.* per mile, and in Newington and Lambeth about 2,500 *l.* per mile; that is the rental per mile of main pipe.

1412. That is to say, Lambeth is far less profitable than the thicker parts?—Yes, it is far less profitable than St. Saviour's and St. George's. In the dense parts

parts of the Borough of Southwark, it is 4,000 *l.* per mile, whereas in Lambeth, which is a little more scattered, it is only 2,500 *l.* per mile.

1413. What is it in the more suburban districts?—The gas rental in Lee and Lewisham is about 800 *l.* per mile of main; in Clapham and Brixton it is about 1,200 *l.* per mile of main.

1414. You fall from 4,000 *l.* in the thickest parts to 800 *l.* in the thinnest parts?—Yes.

1415. Is the profit required to pay your authorised dividend larger than it is in the case of some other companies on account of the state of your capital?—It is; we require to realise a profit per 1,000 cubic feet of 1 *s.* 7 *d.* to pay the authorised dividend on our capital.

1416. That is to say, taking the 10 *l.* per cent. and 7 *l.* per cent.?—We have 540,000 *l.* at 10 per cent., 144,000 *l.* at 5 per cent., 114,000 *l.* at 7½ per cent., and 90,000 *l.* at 5 per cent., making together 888,620 *l.*; and therefore, as I said before, we require a profit per 1,000 feet of 1 *s.* 7 *d.* to per 1,000 feet of gas sold to pay the authorised dividend.

1417. As I understand you, you require a larger profit for that purpose per 1,000 feet than some of the other companies do?—We do.

1418. We have had some of the witnesses talking about uniformity being the right thing; but do you believe it possible to have uniformity without injustice to some one in so large a district as the Phœnix Company covers?—We think not.

1419. I believe that you have had to pay a very large sum in one instance since the year 1864 for the purchase of land?—We have.

1420. How much was that?—£. 68,577 for 5½ acres of land.

1421. That works out to 11,600 *l.* per acre, does it not?—Yes; that land was at Vauxhall.

1422. Some of the companies may possibly have had to pay more; but certainly some have been able to get land for less?—Very much less, though some of them of course have had to pay more.

1423. In point of history, were you the third company established by Act of Parliament?—We were.

1424. When you began, of course they knew very much less about gas-making than they do now?—I should think they did not know anything about it.

1425. And no doubt capital was, in a certain sense, spent in learning the business?—We had a considerable extent of cast-iron pipe that cost 15 *l.* per ton.

1426. What does it cost now?—£. 6.

1427. With regard to competition or opposition, what did you have in the early days?—From the year 1834 to 1853 we had competition.

1428. From which companies?—From four companies, namely, the South Metropolitan Gas Company, the Deptford Gas Company, the London Gas Company, and the Surrey Consumers Gas Company.

1429. Were all of those companies, or only some of them, in different parts of your district?—The South Metropolitan Company was in nearly all of it; the London Gas Company over two-thirds; the Deptford Gas Company over a small portion, perhaps one-fourth; and the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company about one-fourth.

1430. All those companies came into existence after you a good while, did they not?—The South Metropolitan and the London gas companies came into existence in the year 1834.

1431. They had the advantage of your experience, and very probably did things cheaper?—Yes.

1432. The South Metropolitan Gas Company especially?—Yes.

1433. Of course, there were duplicate mains for some time, and so on?—Yes, we had as many as 10 sets of pipes in one street.

1434. Mr. Clemenshaw started a theory that all that ought to come to an end, and that the sale of the pipes would pay for the cost of taking them up?—When the districting arrangements of 1854 were put in operation, the first thing we did was to disturb that arrangement; they merely kept the three sets of pipes necessary to supply the district, the leading main in the middle, and the two subsidiary ones for service-pipes.

1435. In your district, then, Mr. Clemenshaw would be wrong?—Yes.

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1436. There are no such duplicate mains now existing?—Just so.

1437. Taking those things together, you find your capital larger, at all events, than some of the companies, in proportion to the work you do?—It has very considerably added to the capital.

1438. During a considerable part of that competition, were your dividends very much reduced?—Yes, they were reduced to 3 per cent.

1439. How much had the dividends been before that?—Six per cent., 6½ per cent., and 7 per cent.

1440. And 8 per cent., I believe?—Yes, for one portion of the time; that was before we had any competition at all, but after the competition it gradually went down until it came to 3 per cent., and continued at that for two years.

1441. The districting began in 1853, although it was not sanctioned by Parliament until the year 1860?—On the south side of London it did.

1442. *Chairman.*] What is the dividend now?—The statutory dividend, that is to say, 10 per cent., 7½ per cent., and 5 per cent.

1443. What you are stating is this, that in your earlier days, before competition came into your district, you got as high as 8 per cent.?—Yes, for a short time.

1444. The competition reduced you to 3 per cent., but the Act of 1860 has put you up to the rates which you have mentioned to us before?—Non-competition increased our power of paying a dividend; then the districting arrangement enabled us to do what I have stated.

1445. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Before the Act of Parliament?—Yes.

1446. *Chairman.*] When did you get up to this dividend?—Before the Metropolis Gas Act of 1860 we were paying 9 per cent.

1447. Now what are you paying?—It would not be quite 9 per cent. over the whole of the capital; very near that.

1448. When was the era at which you got 9 per cent.?—From 1854 to 1860, and it gradually rose from year to year after the districting arrangement was carried out.

1449. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Do you mean by saying that it is near 9 per cent. now, that it is 9 per cent. on the whole of your capital?—On the 888,620 *l.*

1450. Mr. *Denison.*] The issue of capital at lower rates than 10 per cent. appears to have been all after the year 1860, I think, was it not?—In the year 1864.

1451. I say subsequent to the year 1860?—Yes.

1452. You were paying in 1860 9 per cent. upon the capital which you then had, which was all the 540,000 *l.* capital, and then taking into account the issue of capital at lower dividends since, you are still paying what you may call 9 per cent. on the whole?—Yes, on the whole.

1453. Mr. *Peel.*] You pay all that you are empowered to pay?—We do.

1454. Mr. *Denison.*] Suppose there was only one company on the south side of the water instead of there being four companies, do you believe that were all the pipes to be taken up there would be any saving to be made in that way?—Not now.

1455. The leakage is a very difficult question?—Yes.

1456. But I need hardly ask you if you take all possible pains to prevent leakage?—We do.

1457. In the year 1860 was there a very long inquiry about the mode of jointing pipes?—Yes.

1458. Have you made all possible experiments on that subject, and done all that science can enable you to do?—We have tested it very extensively, and put solid iron joints, metal and metal together, and we have found the lead joints are the most secure.

1459. And that you go on with?—Yes; the large sized pipes.

1460. Which pipes, wrought iron or cast iron pipes, have the least leakage?—Cast iron.

1461. Therefore you use them, of course?—The large size, two inches and upwards.

1462. In fact you have no pipes except the very best, and no joints except those which you think the best, have you not?—We have the best material, the best jointing, and the most experienced workmen.

1463. They

1463. They are all, of course, tested by hydraulic pressure?—The pipes are themselves, of course, tested by hydraulic pressure, but not the lengths of main; not a mile of pipe, for instance.

1464. But the best means are taken to secure the joints?—We think so; we have so materially reduced the waste of gas from that source, that we think we take the best possible precaution to make a perfectly secure pipe.

1465. By the Act of 1860 you must keep the pressure on all day?—Yes.

1466. Is that the case in many other towns?—I think not; that does not apply to any place except the metropolis.

1467. Does that cause a risk of great waste?—It is a serious tax on the gas companies of the metropolis. There are very few localities where a five-tenths pressure would not be quite capable of supplying the day's consumption, but we must take an inch.

1468. Taking leakage in the proper sense, do you believe it is as little as it can be made consistently with the requirements of the Act of Parliament?—We have reduced it from 25 per cent. to 12 per cent.

1469. The leakage proper, I mean?—Unaccounted for gas.

1470. That is not very different from Mr. Clemenshaw's figure, which was 10 per cent.?—Yes.

1471. Then he talks of Manchester, where you say the pressure is not on all day, while your pressure is on all day?—I stated that I did not know any town that was compelled to supply 10-10ths pressure during the day. I did not say there was no town compelled to supply gas during the day.

1472. The illuminating power required by the Act of 1860 was 12 candles, but have you in fact exceeded that standard since that time?—We have.

1473. Do you burn by the burner of 1860, or by an improved burner?—The burners that we use now are very much similar to the burners that we have used for the last 10 years.

1474. By the burner of 1860 you give more illuminating power than you are required, do you not?—Yes, by two candles. We give uniformly 14-candle gas, but we are not enabled to do that from Newcastle coals. We use continually for 10 months in the year, 5 per cent. of Wigan cannel, and for two months, namely, December and January, 10 per cent.

1475. I asked you before whether you supplied only common gas, that is to say, whether you only supply that by which the Act of 1860 is called common gas, though it requires some Wigan cannel to make it?—Yes; we do not call that cannel.

1476. Are you obliged for your own safety to make the gas two candles over the 12, in order that the customers may be sure of that 12?—Yes, it is necessary to do so, I believe.

1477. Are the burners used for testing your gas, under the control of the examiners appointed by the Act of Parliament?—Where there are any they select the burners that will be best adapted for the purpose, and the men appointed inspectors for Lambeth and St. Mary selected the burners and had them fitted themselves. Dr. Letheby also selected a burner and had it fitted. The apparatus is now entirely under Dr. Letheby's control, and he does precisely as he wishes.

1478. If anybody says here, or if last year's evidence says, that your gas is really 1½ candle less value than it was in the year 1860, that is a mistake?—It is certainly a mistake.

1479. Is your reserved fund up to the amount allowed by the Act of Parliament?—It is not.

1480. Have you had any deficient dividends to make up?—Yes; last year we required to take rather more than 3,000 *l.* from our balance of profits.

1481. Where did you take that from?—We have a fund, that varies from time to time, arising from surplus profits.

1482. How is that distinguished from the reserved fund?—The reserved fund is set aside, half-year by half-year, in specified amounts, and that sum is placed in Government securities, and the interest is paid half-yearly; that is a special reserve fund.

1483. Do you mean this: that last year, in consequence of the reduction of price, you could not pay 10 per cent. without drawing on that back fund?—Just so; we had not sufficient profits.

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1484. And you did draw to the extent authorised by the Act of 1860?—Yes.

1485. The arrears being within the six years, as defined by the Act?—That was so.

1486. Now, the testing-houses are at the proper distance required by the Act of Parliament, are they not?—They are about 1,000 yards from each of the manufacturing stations.

1487. Has any legal process of any kind ever been instituted for breach of the Act, against your company?—Not by any authority.

1488. Have you had complaints?—Not of an important character.

1489. They were generally met without law?—Yes, they were met without law; all of them were met readily.

1490. Has there been any inquiry by the Home Secretary in consequence of any application to him?—No.

1491. How many parishes have appointed examiners?—Two.

1492. So far as you know, is there any way in which the manufacture of gas can be economised in your company?—No.

1493. You have done all that you know of?—Yes, we have done all that we know of.

1494. About the cost of coals, and of the residual products. Do you find, by experience, that a rise in the price of coal is always attended by a rise in the price of the residual products?—We do not find that one has much relation with the other. It does not follow that a high-priced coal will produce high-priced products.

1495. Do you believe that anything under your present price per 1,000 cubic feet for what we call 14-candle gas, will enable you to keep up your present dividend?—We are quite sure it will not.

1496. I mean your dividend of 10 per cent. on one portion of your capital, and a less dividend on other portions; part of your capital is for 5 per cent., which was for capitalised profits?—One portion of the capital at the time of our getting increased powers by the Act of 1864 was for 144,000 *l.* of capitalized profit, which was the accumulation of 20 years.

1497. You have never issued to the public or among your shareholders even an offer of gas stock at 5 per cent. The profits have been actually capitalised, and you came to Parliament to authorise the capitalisation, receiving 5 per cent. on it?—Yes.

1498. You have never issued fresh stock, or offered to the shareholders or the public anything bearing less than $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—No, we have not. Not issued to the public.

1499. When you came to authorise this capitalisation of past profits, Parliament gave you 5 per cent?—Yes, on that accumulated profit.

1500. That is an explanation which I ought to have asked you for; you see the bearing of it?—Yes.

1501. There is a statement here sent to the Board of Trade signed by five gas engineers, you are one of them?—Yes, I am.

1502. The table at page 16 was well considered, I suppose, from your experience?—Yes.

1503. You stand to that?—I do.

1504. You put down, "By sale of so much Wigan coke at 5 *s.* per chaldron;" is that as much as you can get for the coke on an average?—That is as much as we can get for it, on an average.

1505. If anybody has been able to get more it must have been from special circumstances?—No gas company in London would be able to realise more by the sale of Wigan cannel.

1506. At all events you have not?—We have not done so, and we sell a largish quantity.

1507. Is the cost of carbonizing a ton of coals quite irrespective of what the products of it may be?—Quite; it has nothing to do with the products.

1508. Now, supposing that you were required to give 18-candle gas, and at the same time to reduce the price from 4 *s.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, how would that operate on your profits?—It would annihilate them, as a matter of course.

1509. Do not say "of course," but it would annihilate them, would it?—Yes.

1510. It would do more, perhaps, than that?—It would take from the little reserve that we have.

1511. Would

1511. Would it actually compel you to manufacture gas at a loss?—It would compel us to manufacture at a loss of 1 *d.* per 1,000.

1512. What is the proportion of reduction, taking the two things together; 13-candle gas raised to 18-candle gas is an addition of one-third to the illuminating power?—Yes.

1513. A reduction from 4 *s.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* is a reduction of one-eighth in price?—Yes.

1514. Multiplying those two fractions together, and taking the result, that is equal to supplying gas at present at 2 *s.* 7½ *d.*?—It would be 1 *s.* 2 *d.* per 1,000; 6 *d.* diminution of price.

1515. It said that if more power is obtained from a different coal, the working expenses will be less, but will it be less; do you see your way to reducing the working expenses?—We think it would be rather the opposite for a higher illuminating power.

1516. *Chairman.*] You mean working expenses, excluding the cost of the raw material?—Yes, certainly.

1517. You mean, that to give the same illuminating power from a higher quality of coal or cannel would leave your working expenses, excluding from that item the cost of the raw material, as high or higher than they were before?—It would.

1518. Mr. *Denison.*] About the purification, would the cost of the purification be greater with a higher quality of gas?—That would materially depend on the particular character of the coal; some cannels have a considerable amount of impurity, sulphur, and so on, and some are nearly pure.

1519. Now, about the increase in the cost of coals, is that cost increasing now?—The cost has very much increased within the last three or four years.

1520. I suppose you mean the cost of both the coal and cannel which you use?—Yes, both. I can state as a fact that the price of common Newcastle coals has increased 2 *s.* per ton within the last three years.

Chairman.] I think we may take it that there can be no mystery about the prices of coal in London.

1521. Mr. *Denison.*] Some of the witnesses seem to think otherwise. The other question is labour, about which I am afraid there is also no mystery?—Labour has gone up within the last two years from 10 to 15 per cent; that is to say, for ordinary common unskilled labour 10 per cent., and for partially skilled labour 10 or 15 per cent.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

1522. First of all you spoke about your dividend; would you just separate those things which my learned friend did not separate; there is 540,000 *l.* at 10 per cent. of your stock?—Yes.

1523. You said that 218,882 *l.* was the amount for gas and the residual products?—Yes, and a small sum for miscellaneous receipts and interest.

1524. *Chairman.*] Only 1,000 *l.* together?—Just so.

1525. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I have got down 659 *l.* miscellaneous receipts?—£. 659 miscellaneous receipts; interest 479 *l.* 2 *s.* 10 *d.*

1526. Can you separate from that the amount for the residual products?—I can; 46,654 *l.* 2 *s.* 8 *d.* is the amount for residual products arising from the sale of coke, breeze, tar, and ammonia.

1527. What did you pay for coal during that year?—15 *s.* 9½ *d.* per ton.

1528. In 1866 I mean?—Yes that was the average price per ton for the whole year.

1529. Was that cannel?—One portion of the year; the first portion of an old contract was 23 *s.* 3 *d.* per ton; the next contract was 26 *s.* per ton, that was without the expenses of delivery.

1530. Will you tell me what was the gross sum you paid for coal?—£. 81,793. 14 *s.* 1 *d.*

1531. Do you separate there between coal and cannel?—No, we do not; they are included together, but it would be a little difficult to give you them separately.

1532. Now we come to the working expenses; 150,363 *l.* I think?—Yes.

 1533. What

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1533. What is your item of 68,458 *l.*?—That is net profit on that year's working.

1534. With regard to the working expenses, I will ask you how many directors have you?—Ten.

1535. What do you pay them?—£. 2,000 a year.

1536. How many secretaries have you?—One.

1537. What do you pay him?—£. 1,000 a year.

1538. And you pay 1,500 *l.* a year in clerks, I think?—Yes.

1539. I suppose you do not much differ from any other companies in the number of your directors and your expenses?—No; I think that we are about the average.

1540. That would be for the 13 companies 130 directors?—About that; some companies have fewer directors; some have eight.

1541. That would be 130 directors and 13 secretaries?—Some of those districts are very small compared with others.

1542. Have any of your company's mains running through the districts of other companies?—Not to supply gas.

1543. Have you different sets of works?—Yes, but not in the district of another company.

1544. You do not run any across?—No.

1545. Do you not run across the Surrey Consumers'?—No, we do not run across them in any point whatever.

1546. *Chairman.*] You have separate works for different districts, have you not?—The works situated at the lower end, called Greenwich, are entirely detached from the London districts; there is no communication between the two.

1547. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Do you run across the London works?—No.

1548. How do you get from one portion to the other?—They are connected on the map; we reserved that at the time of the districting.

1549. Now with regard to the superintending engineer; each company has its own, I suppose?—No, each company has not a superintending engineer, I think; each of them has a manufacturing manager.

1550. Have they not a superintending engineer?—I think not.

1551. Now you say, as I understand you, that in the year 1860 your price was 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—The town price was 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

1552. And 5 *s.* for the country?—5 *s.* for the country.

1553. The Act of 1860 left you as you were with respect to price?—The Act of 1860 left us as we were with respect to price.

1554. And you afterwards reduced your price in the next year to 4 *s.* 3 *d.* and 4 *s.* 9 *d.*?—We reduced our price in the year 1860 to 4 *s.* 3 *d.* and 4 *s.* 9 *d.* You said that the Act left us as we were, but that is not so; we made very large concessions for that Act; we were not under the Gas Clauses Act. When we went in with the Metropolitan Gas Bill we made concessions, and gave up the powers of our original Act, by which we were unlimited in our amount of dividend; we were not controlled by the modern clauses, and we gave that in substitution, as we believed, for the non-competitive trade secured by Parliament.

1555. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say that with regard to any precise diminution of the price per 1,000 feet, the Act of 1860 left you alone?—It did.

1556. But in order to get what you considered the advantage of the Act of 1860, you consented to be regulated by the Gas Clauses Act of 1847?—We did.

1557. Mr. *O'Malley.*] That is not an explanation of your first answer?—I think it is very materially so.

1558. The Act of 1860 left you undiminished in price, did it not?—It did.

1559. Had you ever been in Parliament between the years 1847 and 1860?—Not for the Phœnix Gas Company.

1560. Did you ever know of a company coming between the years 1847 and 1860 to Parliament which was not put under the restrictions of the Act of 1847?—No; every one of them was, of course, put under those restrictions.

1561. Now you say that you were paying 9 per cent. for your capital in the year 1860?—Yes, in 1860.

1562. What were you paying in the year 1853?—£. 3 per cent. I think, but I will refer to that.

1563. So that the effect of your arrangements by which you got rid of the competition was to raise you from 3 per cent. to 9 per cent. in the interval?—That was the districting arrangement.

1564. And the arrangement which you had made in 1854 was an arrangement, as I understand, that was sanctioned by Parliament afterwards in the year 1860?—It was.

1565. So that the act thereby carried out your original arrangement. Now the Act of 1860 not only carried out your original arrangement but it also prevented any person from making gas for sale in your district, did it not?—It did.

1566. You say that the state of your capital requires a larger sum to pay your dividend than is the case in other companies?—Than in some of the other companies.

1567. May I ask you what you refer to in that statement?—In the year 1863 the original capital of the company was absorbed, being used for the purpose of manufacture, and we were up to the limits of our power of production; in the year 1864 we came for powers to raise new capital, and of that new capital 204,620 *l.* was expended up to Christmas 1866, but it was not productive in the return of gas rental, because it was not used for the manufacture of gas.

1568. What capital was it that was not used for the manufacture?—The 204,620 *l.*

1569. Then what was it used for?—For the purchase of land, for the construction of works, and for the erection of gas holders.

1570. First of all where was the land purchased?—At Vauxhall.

1571. Has that land been built on?—It is now.

1572. Are the works constructed on it?—Now they are.

1573. How long was it purchased before the works were constructed?—It was purchased in the year 1864.

1574. That was for the purchase of land on which to erect works?—Yes.

1575. Which works would be used for the manufacture of gas?—They will now be used for the manufacture of gas; therefore we say that we are prepaying on 204,620 *l.* of the capital, and that that has not been reproductive in gas income; that is one cause of an increased necessity of profits to compensate for that.

1576. Was that because you laid out the money before you were prepared to use the land?—No; in the year 1863 the whole capital of the company, and their means of production, were exhausted.

1577. Now, with regard to your capital of 540,000 *l.*, how was that accumulated?—It was gradually increased from the year 1824, after the purchase of the proprietary works in the year 1820.

1578. Which works?—The original works on which the Phœnix Company was based; they were proprietary works, Messrs. Monroe and Evans.

1579. You purchased them from Messrs. Monroe and Evans?—Yes, we purchased them from Messrs. Monroe & Evans, and the South London Gas Company, in the year 1820; and from the two, with a newly-constructed proprietary, the Phœnix Gas Company in 1824 arose.

1580. So that a great deal of the capital that you have here is capital that is really unproductive at the present time?—We think not unproductive.

1581. I mean to the public?—If you speak of the old capital, we think not; I mean the 540,000 *l.* No company could go and establish similar freehold lands and works, and similar quantities of pipes, for that 540,000 *l.*, I think.

1582. Do you mean that you could not now construct the whole of your works for a much less sum?—I think not.

1583. You talked of mains costing 15 *l.* a ton, and that their worth would be about 6 *l.* now?—Yes.

1584. That is a great difference, is it not?—A very great difference. That is one thing, certainly: but we have freehold land that cost us 57,000 *l.*, but now it would cost us 120,000 *l.* if we had to buy it.

1585. But the land bears a very small proportion to the mains in the cost, does it not?—We have expended at an early period 57,000 *l.* in freehold land, and in mains 145,000 *l.*

1586. Out of the 540,000 *l.*?—Yes.

1587. What did you spend the rest in?—Buildings and works; we spent 119,000 *l.* in buildings.

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1588. When you came to that arrangement in 1854, did you abandon any of the mains?—We obtained money for them.

1589. What was done with that money?—The companies with whom we arranged gave over a certain portion to the Phœnix Gas Company, and the company gave over to others; and if the balance or difference was in favour of the Phœnix Gas Company, we obtained the money; with one company we got 20,000 *l.*

1590. Did you turn those mains into money afterwards?—Where they were available we did; where they were too numerous we took them up and placed them where they were required for extension; the labour was lost.

1591. I do not understand this as an answer to the question of anything peculiar in your capital that requires so much greater an outlay?—I think I explained that tolerably well; the 204,620 *l.* has not become re-productive.

1592. *Chairman.*] What I understand you to be contending for is this: that you having raised 204,620 *l.*, and having expended it in works which are hereafter to be productive, it is not yet productive?—That is so.

1593. And you consider yourself entitled to a profit of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on that capital during the interval before it has been employed for the benefit of the public in the manufacture of gas?—We do.

1594. Mr. *O'Malley.*] My learned friend asked you a question about uniformity; he said, "the system of uniformity;" what does that mean?—A uniform price throughout the whole of the district was what was meant.

1595. The South Metropolitan Company goes side by side with yours?—In some portions of the district they do; for instance, at the top of the green line adjacent to the blue, on that map there (*pointing it out*).

1596. Could you tell me if there are any streets where you go on one side, and that company on the other?—Yes; in the Walworth-road, from the Elephant and Castle to Camberwell.

1597. You go side by side with that company from the Elephant and Castle to Camberwell. Is that a district in which you charge 4 *s.*?—Yes.

1598. On one side they pay 4 *s.*, and on the other 3 *s.* 4 *d.*, then?—No.

1599. How is that?—The Walworth-road is solely supplied by the South Metropolitan Gas Company, and the price is alike on both sides. Our district lies at the back of the houses.

1600. Just behind the houses they are paying 4 *s.* to you and 3 *s.* 4 *d.* to the Metropolitan Company?—Yes; the South Metropolitan Company having arrived at that position that their lower price pays the interest on their capital.

1601. They have got more for the benefit of the public out of their capital than you have done?—I think so.

1602. You spoke of a thing that I could not quite understand; you distinguish between a reserved fund which is invested under the Act, and of which the interest is brought into the account of the company, and a reserve profit fund. What is that reserve profit fund?—I do not think that I used that word. I merely said balance of profits, varying from time to time. We consider that that reserved fund is a special arrangement of the Act of 1860, that requires the investment to be made in Government Securities, and the interest of those accumulations to be added, from half-year to half-year, until they arrive at 10 per cent. on the capital, and then it ceases altogether. That we call the special reserve fund of the Metropolis Gas Act, 1860. But our balance of profits is merely a floating sum of 10,000 *l.*, sometimes used as working capital, and sometimes used for the equalization of dividends, and not invested.

1603. Mr. *Goldney.*] What you would call your P and L account?—Yes.

1604. Mr. *O'Malley.*] The Act of Parliament requires, after your maximum dividend has been paid, that the public shall have the benefit either in the way of hastening the accumulation of your reserve fund, or in a reduction in the price of gas on all that remains over?—After the reserve fund has reached 10 per cent. of the capital employed; but the two funds do not come to that.

1605. But the public get the benefit of the reserve fund, do they not?—Not until it reaches 10 per cent.

1606. But the sooner it reaches 10 per cent. the better for them. I have before me your accounts for the year 1865, and I find here that 64,125 *l.* is allotted to the payment of your dividend?—Yes.

1607. Then I find a large balance, 10,758 *l.*?—Yes, that was in 1865.

1608. That

1608. That is what you call your balance of profit?—Yes.

1609. That is a balance of profit which you hold in hand, and do not pay into the reserve fund?—I am sorry that you do not go a little further. Immediately the accumulation of that fund was found to amount literally, a reduction of price of 3 *d.* per 1,000 feet was made.

1610. *Chairman.*] The point in dispute is whether you have complied in letter and spirit with the provisions of the Act of 1860 with regard to the reserve fund?—We have.

1611. Have you not created an intermediate fund, which retards the operation of the provisions of that Act?—We think it does not.

1612. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Why do you think so?—Because the two funds together are not equal to the 10 per cent. indicated by the Act.

1613. When you say you are paying 9 per cent., you have put together 10 per cent. maximum, $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 5 per cent., and 5 per cent. again?—Yes.

1614. What you represent is that all that together makes upon your capital a 9 per cent. dividend?—Very nearly, not quite 9 per cent.

1615. Now what amount is invested in your reserve fund?—£. 9,100, I think it is.

1616. Is that all?—That is all.

1617. Have you taken any money out of that fund, to make up back dividends?—We have not.

1618. Never?—We have not taken any amount out of that fund to make up back dividends.

1619. Have you taken money out of any fund, to make up back dividends?—Yes.

1620. Which fund was that?—The balance of profit fund.

1621. How much did you take?—£.3,000 odd.

1622. Altogether?—Altogether, and only once, at Christmas 1866.

1623. Since the year 1860 and 1861, you have been paying your Parliamentary dividend?—We have.

1624. When was it that you paid any back dividend?—For three years we paid back dividend.

1625. I thought you said that you had only done so on one occasion?—No; I said that we had taken money out of the balance fund in one year only.

1626. You say now for three years?—No, that was another question.

Chairman.] You ask the witness now, how many back dividends he has paid, and he says three years, but you asked him previously, how many times he had drawn on this fund, and he said only once.

1627. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Do you mean that you only paid three years back dividends?—For three years we paid the back dividends.

1628. You have not taken money out of the reserved fund at all?—No; we have not.

1629. But out of the profit balance?—Yes.

1630. Paid three years' back dividends?—Yes.

1631. *Chairman.*] Is this what you say, that you have gone on paying what you consider your statutory dividend?—Yes, up to 1866.

1632. And in addition to that, you have paid three years' back dividend?—Yes.

1633. That means that you have created a sort of suspense account over and above what has gone to the reserved fund?—Yes.

1634. Mr. *O'Malley.*] How much have you paid, back dividend?—Four and a half per cent., one and a half per cent. per annum on three years.

1635. Mr. *Denison.*] In three separate payments?—Yes.

1636. Mr. *Goldney.*] On what amount is the $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—On the dividends of the original capital, on the 540,000 *l.* for three whole years.

1637. Mr. *O'Malley.*] You say that you are bound to keep up a pressure of an inch all day?—We are.

1638. First of all, separating the amount of pressure from the fact of the pressure, do you not know that a good many companies throughout the kingdom are forced to keep on a constant pressure?—I do not know any that is bound by the Act of Parliament to keep on a higher pressure than 5-10ths.

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1639. But separate the question of the amount of pressure from the fact?—All companies under the statute are bound to keep the mains full, I apprehend.

1640. I suppose that a good deal of the profit of the Metropolitan Company is derived from gas supplied in the day, is it not. As you walk along and look at the cellars and so on, it strikes one that there is a good deal of profit to be made in the day?—There is not much profit in the day supply on the south side of London.

1641. Not so much as there is on the north?—No.

1642. Nothing less than an inch pressure will do for cooking purposes, for instance?—No.

1643. You have told us (and I was rather surprised to hear it) that the burner with which you test the illuminating power is the same burner that was used in the year 1860, is that so?—The same construction of burner.

1644. The same definition as in the Act?—Yes.

1645. That is to say constructed the same?—Yes.

1646. The orifices the same?—Yes, the same size.

1647. Is it not what is called an improved burner?—That is merely the film through which the orifice is passed; the capacity is not larger.

1648. But would not the same gas that might be passed through the burner that was in use in the year 1860, if passed through the burner that you now test by, give a larger illuminating power?—No, not any.

1649. Did you ever see that tested?—Oh, yes.

1650. The central aperture for the admission of the air is not the same, is it?—The area of the central aperture is the same.

1651. What is the area now?—About 5-16ths.

1652. What is the diameter?—The diameter of the interior aperture is about 5-16ths, by which the air is admitted into the discharged orifices of the burner.

1653. Do I understand you to say distinctly that the aperture by which the air is admitted to your burner now, in the year 1866, is the same as the aperture of the burner used after the passing of the Act of 1860?—The same interior area.

1654. I asked you whether the aperture by which the air is admitted to the burner is still the same?—Well, I answer that by saying that the area is 5-16ths in diameter, the same now as it was in 1860.

1655. Do you undertake to say it is the same as it was in the burner of 1860?—Yes; I will put the two burners before you if you like.

1656. *Chairman.*] I feel bound in justice to the witness to say I see no hesitation in his answer?—No, there could not be.

1657. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Your Argand burner is 5-16ths internal aperture, did you say that?—Yes.

1658. Three-tenths of an inch?—I did not say so.

1659. That is so, is it not?—You can make it so, if you like.

1660. Is it not so?—If you choose.

1661. *Chairman.*] Is it the same burner as you used in the year 1860?—Not quite. The top disc through which the orifice is passed is steatite, and not capable of the enlargement of the perforation. The orifice of the old burner was made with metal, which by oxidation increased in capacity, until what passed through was larger through the metal burner than it now is through the steatite burner; it is only that the modern burner is more enduring.

1662. Mr. *O'Malley.*] That is the only difference between them, is it?—That is the only difference.

1663. Would you object to produce the burner such as you test by now?—Not the smallest possible objection.

1664. Do you use in testing, the same burner as Dr. Letheby tests by?—At three of the stations.

1665. You have Dr. Letheby's burner at those three stations; do you mean Dr. Letheby's burner by which he tests now is the same as that by which the gas was tested immediately after the year 1860, with the exception of the steatite?—They are not the same burners, but they are of the same construction.

1666. The orifice is exactly the same?—Yes; there is no difference.

1667. They produce the same results from the same gas?—Precisely; the new burner

burner will burn exactly the same number of candles with the same quality of gas.

1668. Is Dr. Letheby your tester now?—He is at the three testing offices that are placed 1,000 yards from the manufacturing works.

1669. Then is there any difference between your burner now and what it was last year?—Not any.

1670. When was Dr. Letheby appointed your tester?—Nearly, but not quite two years ago; we have had a chemical tester since the year 1854, Mr. Warrington, of Apothecaries' Hall.

1671. I have Dr. Letheby's evidence here—

Mr. *Denison.*] You have not called him.

1672. Mr. *OMalley.*] When you use the cannel in manufacturing gas, do you put it in separate retorts?—For 10 months in the year the cannel is distributed over the common coal at the rate of 5 per cent., and there is no separation, but for two months in the year we use 10 per cent. of cannel, and the coke is kept separate; it is manufactured separately.

1673. In separate retorts?—Yes; and we keep the coke separate.

1674. Why do you do that?—The coke of cannel deteriorates all the other coke, and depreciates the price that we get for it.

1675. Are you not aware that burning them together gives better results than burning them separate?—Up to a certain limit we think so, burning common and cannel coal together.

1676. As I understand you, you have never in the Phœnix works made cannel gas?—No; the Phœnix never supply cannel gas.

1677. With regard to the 18 candle gas that you have spoken of, it is mere conjecture, is it not?—I think it is not conjecture; we know the price of the coal.

1678. But it is a calculation at all events.

Chairman.] The question means this, I suppose: have you any experience personally of the cost of making 18 candle gas?—

Witness.] I have not.

1679. Mr. *O'Malley.*] You made an experiment for the purpose of comparing the 18 candle gas with the 12 candle gas; in point of fact, what you supply now is 14 candle gas?—Practically it is.

1680. And the computation you gave here for the 12 candle gas is not a representation of the cost to you at the present time, is it?—It is not.

1681. You have been using 5 per cent. of cannel and 10 per cent. sometimes?—Yes, since the Metropolis Gas Act we have.

1682. So that in fact it is a calculation in one respect compared with a calculation in another respect, but neither of them represents any existing facts; you have never made the cannel gas, and you do not make the common gas?—I did for many years make common gas.

1683. When was that?—Up to 1860 we did, but we have used cannel coal since 1860.

1684. When you do sell cannel coke, is that two months' produce of 10 per cent. of your whole coal?—It is the produce of cannel coal used at the rate of 10 per cent over the whole production, but it is not the produce of 80 per cent. of Newcastle and 10 per cent. cannel.

1685. I understand that for two months in the year you separate your cannel coke from your other coke?—We do.

1686. And during those two months you manufacture 10 per cent. of your whole consumption of cannel coal?—That is so.

1687. So that your experience of the sale of cannel coke amounts to that?—To the two months' consumption of cannel.

1688. And to the amount of 10 per cent. on your consumption for those two months?—Yes.

1689. Could you give me any idea of the quantity?—Perhaps it is about 700 tons for the two months, or a little more perhaps.

1690. To whom do you sell your coke?—It is sold chiefly for cement burning that class of coke.

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1691. Do you sell any to coal merchants?—The common coke we do very largely.

1692. What for?—Do you ask me that with regard to the average price for the whole year?

1693. Yes?—That is 8 *s.* 6 *d.* or 9 *s.*

1694. It varies very much sometimes, does it not?—Yes, very much; it depends on the weather.

1695. The price of 8 *s.* 6 *d.* to 9 *s.* means the price of a chaldron of 13 cwt.?—Yes, 13 cwt.

1696. It depends on the season a good deal, you say?—Entirely; sometimes it is as much as 18 *s.* a chaldron, and sometimes as low as 5 *s.*, within six weeks of each other.

1697. Do you know yourself, or have you ever tested to ascertain, what illuminating power you can get from cannel coal?—We have tested that in a very small way, but I would not be so good to give an opinion as some other people for that special question; mine would be merely an experiment not applying to large works.

1698. What do you put as the illuminating power which you can get from good Wigan cannel coal?—About 22 to 24 candle gas from the Ince Hall Wigan cannel.

1699. Do you know that you can get a good deal more from the best Lancashire cannel?—If you do get much more, you must reduce the quantity of cubic feet, but 10,100 feet produces 22 to 24 candle gas.

1700. But you can, in fact, get much more, can you not?—If it is very specially selected you may get 30 to 32 candle gas; take a foot from the top of the seam and a foot from the bottom, and then from the 18 inches in the middle you would get 32 candle gas, perhaps.

1701. How much can you get from Newcastle coal?—Used by itself, about $12\frac{1}{2}$ candles; for 9,500 feet to a ton.

1702. But you can get more than that, cannot you?—We have not done so; there are some Newcastle coals that will give you more.

1703. Take the last Newcastle coals; what would they give you?—The Peel Main would give $13\frac{1}{2}$ candles.

1704. Not 14?—No, not to take 9,500 feet to the ton.

1705. Are you quite sure of that?—Quite.

1706. You differ from Dr. Letheby again, for he says 14?—I never knew that he was a gas maker.

Mr. *Denison.*] Have you got that evidence?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Yes.

Chairman.] What it amounts to is this,—that that is the result of the witness's experience, and he differs from everybody whose experience differs from that result.

1707. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I understand you to say that from 22 to 32 candle gas is the limit of the illuminating power of the best Wigan cannel coal, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ to $13\frac{1}{2}$ Newcastle coal?—Ordinary Newcastle coal.

1708. Now, what is the amount of coke; you get a chaldron of coke from a ton of coal, do you not?—Practically we do.

1709. That is to say, whichever coal you use?—No.

1710. Do you not get as much in quantity from cannel as from Newcastle coal?—Certainly not.

1711. Will you undertake to say that?—Yes; if we obtained 12 or 14 candle gas from Newcastle coal, we would not get more than $10\frac{1}{2}$ from the Wigan coal.

1712. You have said that you have sold your coke at 5 *s.* a chaldron?—Yes; Wigan cannel coke.

1713. What is the highest price that you have sold it at?—6 *s.*, perhaps.

1714. Not more than that?—No, never.

1715. In what months do you sell it?—In December and January.

1716. Do you get more oil from cannel?—We could not say, because the whole of the liquid products go together; but practically, we know that the tar and oil from cannel is richer than that from common coal.

1717. It

1717. It is worth more money, in fact?—It would commercially be worth more, but at our works we are not prepared to separate the products.

1718. There is a question, I see, which I have omitted. You did not give me the number of tons of each kind?—The tonnage is 103,741; the consumption of cannel out of that is 7,000 tons, making a little over 96,000 tons of common coal.

1719. I need hardly ask you whether, if the same company is supplying cannel gas and common gas, it requires a distinct set of mains?—Of course, and it requires a separate purifier, gasholder, and separate plant altogether.

1720. So that reducing the whole to one standard would, in that respect, be a great saving?—It would be a very great and a very material saving.

1721. I understand that the accounts of 1866 will be handed in with the accounts we ask for?

Mr. *Denison.*] Yes.

1722. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Can you tell me at what you calculate the net cost price at the consumer's meter of the gas per 1,000 feet?—It is 29 *d.* at the consumer's meter.

1723. Now you spoke of the necessity of keeping your gas considerably over the amount prescribed by the Statute?—Yes.

1724. In order to avoid the risk of penalties. But if the penalty is changed into a penalty on an average, you have no longer that necessity?—If it is a penalty at all, we have that necessity.

1725. Why? I can understand that if the amount is to be taken on any one testing, but if the penalty is to be ascertained taking the average that you keep up during a certain time, you do not incur that risk?—Yes, surely.

1726. How is that?—Because there are sometimes circumstances in the supply of gas in which the atmospheric influence would considerably depreciate it at 1,000 yards from the works, and unless we supplied a better than 14 candle gas, we should be liable to penalties.

1727. Then you would not be supplying a better article, would you?—It would be a better article, certainly; but, in consequence of a change of atmosphere, from a severe frost, for example, the gas would be depreciated in the pipes transmitting it.

1728. *Chairman.*] Would it be a considerable convenience in the conduct of your business, if the penalty was taken on an average, instead of on each violation of the rule, so that you might have an opportunity one week of giving a better gas in order to make up for the past week, in which the gas was not so good?—That would be a very great advantage, because anything that would involve us in penalties would put us into constant squabbles.

1729. You think that an arrangement of that kind might be made mutually beneficial, as between yourselves and the public?—Yes, most assuredly; we would concur in that immediately.

1730. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Your main pipes, which conduct your gas from the works to the testing-house, are always put at such a distance as to be independent of atmospheric influence, are they not?—Yes; if the testing were limited to the testing-house appointed by the company, or by the public test, I think we should make no objection in any way; but if a vestry, or a special board, chose to select any individual lamp at any very distant spot, that was deficient from any local circumstance, and made that the point of testing, we would object.

1731. *Chairman.*] It amounts to this, does it not, that the form of test to which you would not object would be an inadequate form of test for the protection of the public?—No; because it is really the best position for testing the whole of the gas manufactured.

1732. But, as I understand you, in order that the test at the principal testing place may secure to the public that they really shall get that quality of gas at the extreme points, it is necessary to go above the prescribed amount of illuminating power?—Yes.

1733. Then to go down to the prescribed amount at the testing place, would result in the extreme points getting an inferior gas?—Yes.

1733*. Therefore, in order to secure to the public what they actually require, is it not necessary to maintain the higher standard?—No doubt.

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1734. Mr. *O'Malley.*] At present you are only liable to be subject to a test at the testing-house?—Anywhere in our district.

1735. You are not subject to penalties, are you?—Yes, we have had it so.

Chairman.] What is important for us to learn from the witness is anything that his experience can give; any argument you can give us in your speech.

1736. Mr. *O'Malley.*] We have got this fact, that in conducting your gas from your factory to your testing-house, supposing a fixed testing place, you are independent of atmospheric influence?—Yes, we are.

1737. But the penalties are penalties only for falling below the minimum at the testing-house; you do not want to make any allowance for atmospheric influence, do you?—No, not for atmospheric influence; but it would be extremely difficult for the manufacturing plant of the gas works to keep up a uniform supply which would secure them, unless they went a candle and a half above the limited standard. The quality of the coal is so variable in itself; for instance, we have to separate classes of Newcastle coal daily in use.

1738. *Chairman.*] Your remarks come to this, that as you manufacture from various qualities of coal, if you do not aim a little higher than the prescribed amount when the coal did not turn out well, you would be in truth below that standard?—Yes, we would; we require an addition to the standard.

1739. Mr. *Goldney.*] You spoke of the price of coke per chaldron, what does a bushel weigh; you give bushels in the account sent in to the Board of Trade?—It is about a quarter of a cwt.; a sack would weigh four bushels.

1740. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Have you raised all the capital that you are authorised to raise?—Not yet.

Re-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

1741. In answer to one of my learned friend's early questions, you said that the cost of coal was so-and-so, exclusive of delivery?—Yes, 23 *s.* 3 *d.* and 25 *s.*, exclusive of delivery into the works.

1742. What does that cost amount to?—1 *s.* 2 *d.* and 6 *d.* per ton, 1 *s.* 8 *d.*

1743. And you are particularly well situated?—The water carriage close to the works direct; in one of our works a ship can come alongside.

1744. About the cost of the directors. Your directors cost 2,000 *l.* a year in all, and your secretary 1,000 *l.*; if they were abolished altogether can you tell what difference that would make in your profits; I think I calculate it as being equal to a 23rd of your profit only?—That is about it, I daresay.

1745. I assume those officers abolished altogether?—Just so.

1746. Now here is another thing: do you know how much the directorial staff of the whole of the companies together work out per 1,000 feet of gas?—Over the metropolis, I think, the expenditure on directors is about 21,000 *l.*; I do not know how that works out per 1,000 feet of gas. The whole of the consumption of coal is about a thousand millions of tons. But there is one thing to be said about the directors: the directors of this company alone represent 100,000 *l.* in the undertaking in their own pockets; you could not get a paid officer of any company to have the same status in society as a man investing 20,000 *l.* in a place like that. You get a higher standard in that way than by having any manager, and if I had the works myself I would pay the money on that account.

1747. Let us drop the "social position;" take the salary of a railway manager, do you believe that you could get a manager to do the thing well for much less than the directors cost?—I think not.

1748. Besides the restrictions under the Act of 1847, we know that your back dividends could only be recovered for six years in consequence of the Act of 1860?—Yes.

1749. Up to 1861 you were not paying your full dividend, were you?—In 1860 we began to pay it, only on a half year in 1860, and the whole year in 1861.

1750. In fact, taking 1860, six years added to that would only come to 1866?—Yes.

1751. So that you might have recouped yourselves the back dividend, even under the Act of 1860, for a considerable time back?—Yes.

1752. But

1752. But you have only done it for three years, or 4½ per cent.?—Just so.

1753. Suppose you had not come under the restrictions of the Act of 1860, you might have gone on for a considerable time to come, yet recouping yourselves for the low dividends at the time of competition, when you were getting 3 per cent., 3¼ per cent., and so on?—Yes.

1753*. All that you have abandoned?—Yes; we gave up our compulsory rights for recovering debts, and we had unlimited powers to deal with our customers as compared with the powers which we now have.

1754. In your case, as in the other large case, all those circumstances were urged why the Act of 1860 should be passed, were they not?—They were.

1755. You gave concessions on one side and made them on the other; it was that kind of compromise?—Yes, that was so.

1756. Suppose you had attempted to issue 7½ stock on the condition of not receiving any dividend until the capital became productive, do you think that you could have issued it?—Surely not; who would take capital without a profit?

1757. If it had been 10 per cent. with a deferred dividend, it might possibly have been done, might it not?—At a great sacrifice it might.

1758. People do not like deferred dividends, do they?—No.

1759. In the Walworth-road there are two mains, I think you said?—No, only one.

1760. I thought you said there were two, one of yours and one of the Metropolitan Company's?—No; I said that the supply of the Phœnix and the supply of the South Metropolitan joined at the back of the Walworth-road, but in the Walworth-road itself there are only the mains of the South Metropolitan Company.

1761. What are your 7½ shares at now; are they at a premium or at a discount?—They are at a discount.

1762. How much?—About 20 per cent.

1763. Now, about the half-inch pressure. You do not know of any company out of the metropolis which is bound to give more than a half-inch pressure?—No.

1764. That was a subject which we urged in 1860?—Yes, it is very serious, because it involves large waste.

1765. If my learned friend says that you obtain a profit by a day supply, that is very insignificant, is it not?—Just so; it is so limited in quantity no one could walk over our district and think it would yield a profit in the daytime.

1766. My learned friend has evidently got something behind in relation to Dr. Letheby's evidence; he asked you questions about the burners; first of all I will ask you if you are giving your own knowledge of the facts?—Yes.

1767. At page 47, Question 1004 in the Committee of last year, Dr. Letheby was asked, "In the course of the year 1864, were there examinations of the illuminating power of the gas supplied by the three City companies?" and he answered "Yes." Then he went on after that with the evidence about the burners with relation to the three City Companies?—Yes.

1768. *They* may be anything they like?—Yes.

1769. But you give evidence with regard to the Phœnix Gas Company?—Just so.

1770. I asked my learned friend with reference to what he had in his mind about the 14 candle gas. At Question 1539, Dr. Letheby was asked, "Am I right in saying that 15 candle gas, which your 14 candle standard would require, is a higher illuminating power than can be obtained from Newcastle coal?" and he replied, "No; I will give you an example. I have for two years past been examining the manufacture of gas at Hastings; they do not use a bit of cannel, or, at least, they did not during the time I was there. They are working with Newcastle coal; and they are producing at the very end of St. Leonards, 14 candle gas; therefore, there is an answer to the question; they are really doing it." Now, in the evidence the other day, Mr. Wood, the engineer of that same company, was examined, and he was asked at Question 1322, "What coal is that you use?" and he replied, "It is principally Newcastle coal, with a small percentage of cannel; it is 14 candle gas." Does it seem to you that those two facts may explain one another?—I think that Dr. Letheby excluded the consumption of cannel.

Mr. *William Innes.*

31 May 1867.

1771. So that there may be no contradiction between you and Dr. Letheby when his evidence is properly understood?—Not any.

Mr. *Webster.*] There is another paragraph in Dr. Letheby's evidence, at Question 1302, which may be, perhaps, material: "You have mentioned the present burner is different from the burner you had, and you proved it by an instrument here?"

Mr. *Denison.*] That is still City.

1772. (To the *Witness.*) Now, if you took cannel alone and tried to obtain 32 candle gas with it, you would have to pay much more for it, would you not? —They would not sell it by itself.

1773. And, of course, taken with the rest, its value would be very much greater?—Yes, very much; we should have to give a very much larger price for it.

Mr. *Webster.*] Dr. Letheby was asked, at Question 1340, "Is the present burner used for testing, the burner that the Legislature contemplated?—*A.* No, I do not think the Legislature contemplated any particular kind of burner; the burner in use in 1860 is different from that which is in use now. *Q.* There was a burner generally understood in 1860?—*A.* Yes. *Q.* Is the burner that is used now the same burner that was used at that time?—*A.* No, it is not."

Mr. *Denison.*] If you go on to the next question you will find that that relates to the City.

Mr. *Webster.*] But it is the question of burners.

1774. *Chairman.*] When did you cease to pay 3 per cent. or $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. dividend?—In 1853 I think it was.

1775. What did that dividend rise to?—It gradually rose to 4 per cent., $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., 5 per cent., 6 per cent., $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 8 per cent., and to 9 per cent. in the year 1860.

1776. What was the cause of that constant rise in your dividends?—In the year 1853 the district supplying the south side of London was re-arranged into limited monopolies, that is to say, they re-arranged the districts, and only had their own mains in that particular district, and they supplied it with gas, and to that we attribute the increasing profit.

1777. What was the benefit that you consider you derived from the Act of 1860?—We believed that by making the concessions which we did, we obtained a security for a number of years by the Act regulating the gas supply of the metropolis in 1860, and the provisions by that Act imposed upon us, though onerous, were quite within our control and capability of performance, and we were willing to concede them for the security obtained.

1778. The question I put to you is, what was the benefit you expected; was it a confirmation of the districting arrangement?—It was.

1779. And the exclusion of competition?—It was.

1780. You attribute the rise of your dividends from 3 and $3\frac{1}{4}$ to 9 per cent. to the exclusion of competition?—Yes, to the exclusive right to a district.

1781. I think you told the Committee that, looking at the whole expense of your land and your plant, and everything else, you could furnish gas as cheaply as any competitor could furnish it?—Manufacture gas as cheaply as any competitor.

1782. The result of the change from competition to monopoly has been with you a change from 3 per cent. as the minimum to a dividend of 9 per cent., has it not?—It has.

1783. It has enabled you to give, I think you say, rather better gas?—Two candles better.

1784. And at a lower price?—Yes.

1785. It has enabled you not only to make this much higher dividend, but also to pay back dividends?—For five half years.

1786. It has enabled you to pay a dividend at 10 per cent. on 540,000 *l.*, at 5 per cent. on 144,000 *l.*, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ on 114,000 *l.*, and at 5 per cent. upon 90,000 *l.*? —Yes.

1787. And

1787. And of that, 204,000 *l.* has been expended in works which are not yet productive to you, inasmuch as they are not yet making the gas which you are to sell?—That is so.

1788. Those being the benefits which you have derived from the Act of 1860, the public have derived two benefits, as I understand you, namely, gas at two candles higher power, and gas at a price reduced from 5 *s.* to 4 *s.* 3 *d.*?—In the out district.

1789. And from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.*?—Yes, in the town district.

1789*. What other benefits do you think the Act has conferred upon the public?—They have the free use of meters without cost; the service pipes are laid into their houses without cost; a protection is given to poor customers, inasmuch as they have not to pay the debts of their predecessors, and they have the power of compelling us to give them gas if they are situated at any point within 50 yards of a present supply of the company. If a house is built 50 yards from an adjacent main, we have to extend up a new pipe to that house within eight days, in order to supply them with gas; and every public lamp must be provided for at 75 yards from the last public lamp; so that in all extensions in new districts we have a considerable capital to lay out, in return for which we get a very small amount of consumption; that includes a considerable capital expenditure.

1790. In addition to the benefits which I went over which you have derived you have also made a certain contribution towards the reserve fund contemplated by the Act of 1860?—Of 9,100 *l.*

1791. In addition to that you have another fund, a sort of suspense reserve fund?—A floating balance of profits.

1792. What is the amount of it?—£. 10,758.

1793. Was the arrangement you made in 1853, and confirmed by the Act of Parliament in 1860, on account of all those advantages which you anticipated and which you describe your company as having derived?—I think so.

1794. Mr. *Lefevre.*] You have not exhausted your power of raising capital?—Not the new; we have raised 114,000 *l.* by share capital, and 90,000 *l.* upon debentures out of 360,000 *l.*

1795. I see, under the 27th & 28th of Victoria, chapter 159, you have power to raise 360,000 *l.* of capital, and 144,000 *l.* on bonds?—The 144,000 *l.* was the accumulated profits of previous years, and the sinking fund of previous years; and when we came to Parliament that was consolidated and turned into 5 per cent. stock; that was not again issued to the public.

1796. Beyond that you had the power of raising money by bonds?—We had the usual powers beyond the 360,000 *l.* of share capital.

1797. How much?—One-fourth.

1798. In the accounts it appears that you have raised 114,000 *l.* by bonds?—That is borrowed on 5 per cent., that is borrowing power.

1799. That has been reduced this year to 90,000*l.*; you have increased your capital which you could raise under the Act, and diminished the amount which you could borrow on bonds?—I think not.

1800. *Chairman*] At all events you agree with that account?—Yes, we have not decreased the capital we have power to raise.

1801. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Was the new capital issued to the public or to the shareholders?—To the shareholders generally.

1802. Was any issued to the public?—I think not; it has since got into different hands, but it was issued *pro ratâ*, according to the shares held by the proprietors.

1803. Mr. *Peel.*] And it is now selling at a discount?—Yes.

1804. Mr. *Webster.*] I understood you to say that the free use of meters and service pipes had been conceded since 1860; is that so?—I said they had been secured to the public since 1860.

1805. Those advantages existed before 1860, did they not?—We have the power of enforcing meter rent, but we have not done so.

1806. The public had the benefit of that before 1860?—To a certain point, but in 1856 we had meter rent.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Frederick John Evans*, sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Richards*.

Mr. *F. J. Evans.*

31 May 1867.

1807. You are a Member of the College of Engineers?—I am.

1808. Have you been engineer to the Chartered Gas Company for 20 years and more?—I have been connected with the company more than 30 years; I have been engineer to them about four years.

1809. From your childhood have you been thoroughly familiar with gas matters?—Yes.

1810. I will take you shortly through the state of things with reference to the Chartered Gas Company; they are the oldest company in London?—Yes.

1811. They have three manufacturing stations, one in Horseferry-road, one at Brick-lane, in the parish of St. Luke's, and one at Curtain-road, in the parish of Shoreditch?—Yes.

1812. You supply, I believe, cannel coal gas and common gas separately?—We do.

1813. Amongst other places you supply the House of Commons with cannel coal gas?—Yes.

1814. And you supply the same gas to some portion of the public?—Yes.

1815. With a separate system of mains?—Yes.

Mr. *Richards* asked the witness some questions with respect to the capital (which he stated was 810,000 *l.* actually expended), the gas rental (which he stated to be 298,306 *l.*), the working expenses, and the net profits; but at the suggestion of the Chairman, he stated that he would get these particulars from the accountant.

1816. What is your price for cannel coal gas?—5 *s.* 6*d.*

1817. What is it for common gas?—4 *s.*

1818. When did you reduce your price from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.*?—In December 1865.

1819. Did you make a reduction in cannel coal gas at the same time?—Yes.

1820. From what did you reduce the cannel coal gas?—From 6 *s.* to 5 *s.* 6*d.*

1821. We know the illuminating power, by the Act of 1860, was fixed at 12 sperm candles; what, in point of fact, has been the illuminating power which you have habitually given and striven to give?—Common gas about 14 candles, and cannel gas from 22 to 23 candles.

1822. Is that tested at the prescribed distance from your works?—It is.

1823. Do you, as a practical engineer, believe that it is necessary to work at that sort of margin, in order to be secure, if you are working under penalties?—Yes.

1824. What dividend did you pay prior to the year 1860?—I think 8 per cent. in 1859.

1825. The arrangement made south of the Thames between the gas companies in 1853 was made amongst the companies north of the Thames in 1857, was it not?—Yes.

1826. That arrangement so made was carried out to some extent, or confirmed by the Act of 1860?—It was.

1827. You say that in 1859 you paid, you believe, 8 per cent.?—Yes; I am not quite up in all the matters of account.

1828. You are the engineer, and not the accountant?—Yes.

1829. Have you gone into the question of the cost of production of the gas?—I have.

1830. What amount of gas do you set down as unaccounted-for gas?—With our company it is 18·31 per cent.

1831. Do I understand unaccounted-for gas to mean the entire difference between the gas you make and the gas you sell?—That is so.

1832. Including all gas burnt upon the premises, all gas lost by condensation, and, of course, any gas that may leak in the mains afterwards?—Yes; and from incorrect registration of meters, and stealage, the difference between the quantity we make and the quantity we sell.

1833. Leakage is the trade phrase; it does not mean gas that has leaked through the pipes?—No; that is a very small amount.

1834. You

1834. You put the unaccounted-for gas at 18·31 per cent.?—Yes.

1835. Looking at the gas sold, what do you put down as the cost per 1,000 feet of gas sold?—The cost is 38 *d.*

1836. *Chairman.*] Are you speaking of cannel gas?—This is a mixture; we cannot separate the two in the account of the Chartered Gas Company.

1837. In your first answer, I understood you to say that you made them separate?—So we do; but the cost of making the two is blended in one.

1838. Do you mean that, though you supply on a large scale two different kinds of gas, you do not keep any accounts which enable you to give the respective costs of the two kinds?—No; we could tell you that we mix the common gas with the cannel gas. The two are made separate, and mixed afterwards?

1839. I understood you to say you supply them separately?—Yes, by distinct mains, and so on; but we have no separate account of the cost of making the two. We have two other stations, and the accounts are mixed up together so that we cannot distinguish between the cost of the cannel and the cost of the common gas.

1840. Mr. *Richards.*] I understand you to say, taking the two together, the cost per 1,000 feet of the gas sold is 38 *d.*—Yes.

1841. By the *Committee.*] How long have you been at work under competition?—For many years.

1842. Did it never occur to you, in your competing with other people, that you should like to know what kind of gas paid the best?—We never have done it; there is no separate account. I could give an estimate that would be very near; but we have no separate account.

1843. What considerations influence you in making a larger proportion of cannel gas, or a larger proportion of common coal gas; nothing but what you suppose the public would like?—That is it; the principal reason for our supplying the cannel gas was because the Western Company, which came into our district, supplied cannel gas, and we were obliged to make cannel gas to com pete with them.

1844. What induced you to fix 6*s.* a 1,000 as the cost of cannel gas, and 4*s.* 6*d.* as the cost of common coal gas?—We fixed the price of the cannel coal gas at the price which the Western Company were charging; the price of the common coal gas has been gradually coming down; a few years ago it was 6 *s.*

1845. Mr. *Richards.*] When did you begin to make cannel gas?—Before 1850.

1846. You put the cost per 1,000 of the gas sold at 38 *d.*?—Yes, that would give a 16 candle gas, taking the two together.

1847. What is the profit per 1,000 cubic feet necessary to pay 10 per cent.?—About 1 *s.* 4 *d.*; 16·14 *d.*

1848. That makes 54·14 *d.* the two together?—Yes.

1849. What is your average charge per 1,000 feet, taking cannel and Newcastle together?—Not quite 4 *s.* 2*d.*, say 4 *s.* 2 *d.*

1850. That would be 50 *d.*?—Yes.

1851. That leaves you with a deficit of 4·14 *d.*?—Yes.

1852. Is it the fact that at present you do not pay 10 per cent. upon your capital?—No; a long way from it.

1853. What was your dividend for the half year ending 31st of December last?—8¾ per cent.

1854. Was that 8¾ per cent. actually earned as profit?—No.

1855. How much did you pay from profit earned?—To make up that 8¾ per cent. we included 9,200 *l.*, a sum which was received from some Boghead coal which we had as surplus.

1856. That gave you an accidental addition of 9,000 *l.* and odd?—Yes.

1857. That enabled you to pay 8¾ per cent.?—Yes.

1858. But your balance of profit and loss would only have enabled you to pay 7½ per cent.?—That is so.

1859. Do you, in your experience, find that the price of coal is rising or not?—It is rising

1860. And cannel the same?—Yes.

1861. Do you in the Chartered Gas Company, pay every possible attention

Mr. *F. J. Evans.*

31 May 1867.

to manufacturing the gas at the cheapest possible rate?—We do; we try everything that is brought forward to economise, or improve the quality.

1862. We have heard it suggested that the London companies do not avail themselves of the best means. Do you know that the London companies have availed themselves of the best means?—I believe they would try everything brought before them.

1863. Do yo believe that gas of 14 candles can be produced to pay 10 per cent. at less than the present price of 4 *s.*?—No, with us we cannot do it; we cannot earn 10 per cent.

1864. With reference to coke, do you find, in your experience, that the coke, the refuse of the Wigan coal, is of very inferior quality, and will not fetch any price in the market?—It is very inferior.

1865. What do you put it at?—We put it at 5 *s.* a chaldron. We have not used any Wigan for several years. We use the Scotch, the Lesmahago, and the Boghead.

1866. What is the market value of the coke produced from that coal?—Very low, indeed; we could sell you any quantity at 2 *s.* a ton.

1867. Does a ton of coal produce a chaldron of coke?—Newcastle coal.

1868. What is the produce of coke from a ton of Wigan coal?—About 20 bushels.

1869. You are at present selling your cannel coal coke at about 2 *s.* a ton?—Yes.

1870. That is, how much per ton of coal?—It would be about 1 *s.* 2 *d.*

1871. Have you calculated what would be the additional cost to the company to make 18 candle gas in the manner proposed by the Bill, instead of 14 candle gas?—1 *s.* 2 *d.* extra per thousand feet.

1872. You say 1 *s.* 4 *d.* profit is the sum you now require to pay 10 per cent. upon your capital?—Yes.

1873. What would be the result upon your dividends, if you were required to make this 18 candle gas?—We should pay no dividend at all; what with that and the difference of price, it would be a dead loss to us.

1874. With regard to the evidence of Dr. Frankland, with reference to the product from a ton of Newcastle coal, what is your experience; he told us that a ton of Newcastle coal produced 10,000 cubic feet of 15 candle gas?—I never heard of such a thing; you could not do it in the laboratory.

1875. About what number of tons do you burn per diem in the Chartered Company at your three stations?—About 600 tons a day in the winter time.

1876. If you could not get that product in the laboratory, you could not do it in the Chartered Company?—No; in our case the whole gas realised on the average, including the cannel and Boghead coal, does not exceed 9,600 cubic feet a ton.

1877. Mr. Clementshaw, of Manchester (I do not know what he knows about London) talked a good deal about the extravagance of the distributive system of London. Taking your own company, are you aware of any arrangement that possibly could be made with regard to the Chartered district, which would diminish the cost of distribution in any way?—No; I think, as far as the Chartered is concerned, they have the largest amount of rental per mile of main of any company, either in Manchester or anywhere.

1878. Your mains lie in the City of London, in common with two other companies, and also in two districts outside the City?—Yes, just so.

1879. They are all connected?—They are connected by that main.

1880. That main therefore passes through a district which it does not supply?—Yes.

1881. That must be the case in almost every instance?—Yes, I think it would be; it must be unless the system of districting was re-arranged altogether.

1882. We are told that there is an immense waste of money in the number of mains that lie idle in particular streets; is that so?—No; the loss by mere leakage, that is, the gas that escapes, I do not think is 4 per cent. on the quantity made.

1883. Wherever you have a main that is superfluous or which you do not want, what do you do with it?—We let it remain dead, cut it off, if it will not pay to take up.

1884. If it will pay to take it up, you take it up?—Yes.

1885. Do you know of any mains charged with gas and performing no duty, as it were?—Not in our company.

1886. The mains you speak of have no gas in them, and therefore no gas can leak out of them?—Just so.

1887. Something has been asked with reference to the burners, let us understand about this burner that has appeared since 1860. You have had as much experience as anyone; is there any burner in existence now which was not in existence before 1860?—No better burner; there are burners now in existence that were not in existence in 1860.

1888. *Chairman.*] We don't want to go into the different sorts of burners; all we want to know is whether, when you speak of gas as 12 or 14 candles, you mean at different times the same thing. (To the *Witness.*) Does 14 candles in 1867 mean the same thing as 14 candles meant in 1860?—Yes, there is no difference whatever; it is not the fact that the burner as given $1\frac{1}{2}$ candles difference.

1889. Mr. *Richards.*] There were in 1860 inferior burners by which you could reduce the illuminating power of your gas?—Yes.

1890. Are your Horseferry-road works tolerably favourably situated for the delivery of coals?—We have to cart them from the river.

Chairman.] I do not understand that there is any contest between the parties as to the second schedule of the Bill. As long as it is a question about the quality of the gas, we understand what we are about, but if there is to be a controversy upon the second schedule, we must know that we are to direct our attention to that.

Mr. *Richards.*] We do not admit the description of the burner contained in that schedule.

Chairman.] Are you examining this witness for the purpose of showing us that we ought to object to insert the second schedule in the Bill, because if not, the details of the burners are not much to the purpose.

Mr. *Richards.*] We are accused of making no difference in the quality of the gas because it is tested through a different burner; we positively deny that.

Chairman.] That is upon the notes; that is all, I suppose, you want.

Mr. *Richards.*] You are one of the engineers who signed the memorandum that has already been referred to?—I am.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

1891. I do not make any accusation upon the burner, but, as a matter of fact, is the burner in the second schedule different in any respect from the burner in use prior to 1860?—Yes.

1892. Then there are two burners; one the one of 1860, and the other, the one of the second schedule?—Yes, they differ in their construction and material.

1893. As a matter of fact, the burner in use in 1860 and the burner described in the second schedule are different burners?—Yes, they are.

1894. Which is your favourite, which do you prefer?—I think the burner that is mentioned in the schedule is the better burner in many respects, but not as regards illuminating power.

1895. The burner mentioned in the schedule is a better burner than the one of 1860?—Not as regards giving a greater amount of illuminating power.

1896. You told us first that the burner in the schedule is a different burner to the one of 1860?—Yes.

1897. In what respects is it different?—In the size of the holes, and the various proportions of the internal chamber.

1898. That is the construction; but as regards the measure of illuminating power, which is the best or which is the fairest?—The burner that existed previous to 1860 will give as good results as that mentioned in the schedule.

1899. In what respect is the one in the schedule better or worse than the one

of 1860?—If you mean as to illuminating power, it is no better and no worse it is about the same.

1900. What is the difference between the two?—None whatever.

1901. Then they are the same burners exactly?—No; they are the same burners exactly as far as giving the same amount of illuminating power, but they are different in construction; the top of one is iron, and the other is made of steatite, but the result which both will give is the same.

1902. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] When both are new?—Yes, it is merely a question of wear.

1903. Mr. *Webster.*] So far as regards the testing of illuminating power, you have no preference for one or the other?—No.

1904. You consider them exactly the same?—Yes.

1905. You probably would as soon have the old burner inserted in the schedule as the one mentioned in the schedule?—As far as illuminating power is concerned, certainly.

1906. You say, as regards illuminating power, the two burners give precisely the same result, burning the same quantity of gas?—Yes.

1907. Then in what respect does the one differ from the other, as regards results?—They do not differ; I say they do not differ.

1908. There is no difference, except that the one is steatite and the other metal?—Yes; it is matter of mechanical construction.

1909. There is a difference of opinion upon that among gas engineers?—I think not.

1910. As a matter of fact, do not some engineers prefer one, and some another?—The burner that is generally used is the one that is called the steatite burner.

1911. Are you aware of Dr. Letheby's evidence of last year?—

Chairman.] We do not want to take evidence, except upon points which are in controversy. If the opponents wish that we should hesitate to insert this schedule, then, of course, we must go into it, because we must hear both sides in detail upon it; but if it is merely a question whether 14 candles in 1860 and 14 candles in 1867 mean the same thing, then this witness has stated, in the strongest way possible, his opinion that they do.

Mr. *Michael.*] Permit me to say, that I am totally against this burner, because it does not apply to 20 candles. I have not said a word, because no evidence has been given by me with respect to the test that should be applied to cannel gas.

Chairman.] My object is to narrow the inquiry to the points upon which there is any contest, so that we may not waste time. If the Counsel on either side do not wish to examine this witness upon the schedule, it is idle for us to go into things that have no relevancy, except as pointing to the schedule.

Mr. *Michael.*] Therefore I have been silent; but I must not be taken as assenting. I find that silence was taken as assent a few days back.

1912. Mr. *Webster.*] In your opinion, is the same burner suitable for 20 candles and 12 candles?—Certainly not.

1913. You say that the mains throughout your district are all doing full duty?—Yes.

1914. There are none from which there is any waste?—No.

1915. And the leakage proper, that is, the escape of gas through the distributing mains does not amount to more than 4 per cent.?—Yes.

1916. What figure do you give as the total leakage?—18·3 per cent.; that arises partly from defective meters, partly from stealage (for there is a great deal of gas stolen; we have cases continually occurring), and partly from the meters not always registering the quantity of gas passing through them, especially since the introduction of dry meters.

1917. The unaccounted for gas is 18·3; the leakage would not be more than 4 per cent.?—Just so.

1918. Will you tell us what is the total cost of all your coal in the last year?—140,358 *l.* 7 *s.* 9 *d.*, including the delivery.

1919. It cost you that into the retort house?—Yes.

1920. I observe in the Blue Book, in the return for 1864, the coals, including dues, are put down at 125,190 *l.*?—Very likely.

1921. When I am asking about the cost of the material into the retort house, are you speaking of the same items in the two years?—Yes.

1922. What is the total receipt in 1866 from the residual products, including coke and everything else?—£. 49,344. 10 *s.*

1923. What was it in 1864?—I cannot tell you.

1924. You spoke of the dividend you were paying; I think you have increased the salaries lately, have you not?—The salaries of some of the officers.

1925. How many directors have you?—Twelve.

1926. What did they receive last year?—£. 2,500.

1927. In 1864 did they receive 2,387 *l.*?—I dare say that is right.

1928. What is the total salaries of the officers last year?—Salaries and commissions of collectors, 12,295 *l.* 6 *s.* 5 *d.*

1929. Sever the salaries, will you?—I cannot do that.

1930. In 1864 it was 10,394 *l.*?—Very likely.

1931. Has there been any other increase of expenses between 1864 and 1866?—Yes; there has been a great rise in the price of coal; we have had to pay for barging the coals.

1932. That would be included in the cost; I asked you the cost in the retort house, it is included in that?—Yes.

1933. As to the dividend, you say the accountant will give the particulars?—Yes.

1934. You are the engineer?—Yes; I have nothing to do with the accounts.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

1935. Can you tell us whether there was any increase of rental between 1864 and 1866, and if so, how much?—I think the rental is less; there has been a decrease owing to the reduction in the price.

1936. Mr. *Webster.*] The accountant will probably tell us the rise in the price of the shares; are you a shareholder?—Yes.

1937. What were the shares in 1860, were they 62—72?—Yes.

1938. Were they, in 1866, 85—81?—Yes.

1939. Mr. *Richards.*] What are they in 1867?—Down to 52.

1940. Your shares are at 2 *l.* premium only?—That is all.

1941. You have an accountant connected with the company, who will answer the questions you are unable to answer?—Yes.

1942. *Chairman.*] When did the system of districting apply to your company?—In 1857.

1943. Before that time what dividend were you paying?—For many years only 6 per cent.

1944. After the system of districting, you began to rise immediately?—Yes, it effected a great economy, in paving especially.

1945. You have a capital of 810,000 *l.*, you say?—Yes.

1946. And you have an annual receipt of 298,000 *l.*, that is derived partly from common coal gas and partly from cannel gas; how much of it is derived from each?—The common gas rental for the year ending 1866 at Christmas was 175,280 *l.* 11 *s.*, and the cannel gas rental was 58,182 *l.* 17 *s.* 5 *d.* The public lighting, which would include cannel and common gas, because many are lighted by cannel gas as well as common coal gas, exclusive of the cost of lighting the lamps, was 16,992 *l.* 0 *s.* 5 *d.*; making a total rental for the gas 250,455 *l.* 9 *s.* 9 *d.*, from which 1,492 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* for bad debts must be deducted.

1947. What I was pointing to was this; do I understand you rightly with so large a capital, and so large a receipt dependent partly upon the sale of cannel gas, and partly upon the sale of common coal gas, you have no accurate means of telling the directors whether they derive a larger profit from the sale of common coal gas at the price at which they sell it, or from cannel gas at the price at which they sell it?—There is no direct means, only by estimate.

1948. Though the manufacture is separate, and the supply is separate?—Yes;

Mr. *F. J. Evans.*

31 May 1867.

we make the cannel gas, by having a certain number of retorts with common coal, and some with cannel coal, and that with the cannel coal is constantly varying as the quality of the coal varies.

1949. Has it never been suggested to you by the managers of your company, that it would be interesting to them if you, as engineer, could tell them which branch of their business was the more profitable?—I could tell that by estimate.

1950. As to anything like an accurate statement you are unable to give it?—I am.

[The Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at 11 o'clock.

Monday, 3rd June 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Thomas Bush*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Richards*.

Mr. *T. Bush*.

3 June 1867.

1951. ARE you the Accountant of the Chartered Gas Company?—Yes.

1952. I believe that you have been in the company's service 30 years?—Yes.

1953. Have you in your hand the company's accounts for the last year as prepared by yourself?—Yes.

1954. Now what were the total receipts for the year ending 31st December 1866?—£. 315,053. 17 *s.*

1955. Does that include the sale of the residual products as well as the gas rental?—Yes.

1956. What were your working expenses for the same period?—£. 244,201 14 *s.* 9 *d.*

1957. Leaving a balance of how much?—Leaving a balance of 70,852*l.* 2 *s.* 3 *d.*

1958. What was the quantity of gas sold or made?—The quantity of gas made was 1,474,132,000.

1959. Therefore dividing the 70,852 *l.* 2 *s.* 3 *d.* by that, that gives 11·53 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet as profit?—Yes.

1960. That is on gas made, and not gas sold?—That is on gas made.

1961. *Chairman.*] Will you give the committee the quantity of gas sold also?—1,204,228,000.

1962. The rate of profit is how much?—14·12 *d.*

1963. And your price is how much?—5 *s.* 6 *d.* cannel and 4 *s.* common.

1964. But how much of this was sold at each price?—I cannot say.

1965. Mr. *Richards.*] Take the cannel first; how much cannel gas was sold?—I cannot give you the separate quantities; I can give you the amounts.

1966. *Chairman.*] You can give it to us afterwards, can you not?—Do you mean the amount sold of each?

1967.—If we are to know this we must know it accurately; you say that you sold a certain quantity, and at a certain per-centage of profit upon it. Now, how much of that was cannel sold at 5 *s.* 6 *d.*, and how much coal gas sold at 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—I have the money value; 175,282 *l.* worth of common gas, and 58,152 *l.* worth of cannel gas.

1968. Mr. *Richards.*] The one being 5 *s.* 6 *d.* and the other 4 *s.*?—Yes.

1969. What is your total capital now?—£. 810,000.

1970. Of which how much has been subscribed since the year 1860?—£. 150,000; that is separate from the present call.

1971. You have a Bill before Parliament this year, have you not?—Yes.

1972. Your latest Act of Parliament was 1823, I believe?—Yes.

1973. You were first brought under the operation of the Gas Clauses Act by the Act of 1860, were you not?—Just so.

Mr. *T. Bush.*

3 June 1867.

1974. You were not under it in any way before that, were you?—No.

1975. Your capital being 810,000 *l.*, you are entitled to pay 10 per cent. on the whole of it, are you not?—Yes.

1976. That is, 81,000 *l.* a year?—Yes.

1977. What is the sum per 1,000 of gas made that you would require to pay that dividend of 10 per cent.; I mean the profit?—13·19 *d.*

1978. That is upon gas made?—Yes.

1979. What is it upon the gas sold?—16·14 *d.*

1980. That is to say, taking the two together, the cannel and the Newcastle?—Yes.

1981. You do not keep a separate account for the two, as I understood from Mr. Evans?—We do not.

1982. That is to say, the same people who manufacture the one manufacture the other, and the same clerks and collectors collect for both?—Yes.

1983. But you can say how much you receive for cannel, and how much for Newcastle?—Just so.

1984. You are now speaking of the year 1866?—Yes.

1985. This question of profit varies from time to time, according to the cost of raw material, and the extent of rental, and so on?—Quite so.

1986. The distribution question comes more under Mr. Evans' province than yours, I presume?—Yes.

1987. What have your dividends been for, we will say 20 years back, what is your earliest date there?—In 1850, it was 6 per cent.; in 1851, it was $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; in 1852, it was 4 per cent.; in 1853, it was 4 per cent.; in 1854, it was $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; in 1855, it was $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; in 1856, it was $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; in 1857, it was 6 per cent.

1988. 1857-8 was the year when the arrangement was made among the companies north of the Thames; were you parties to that arrangement?—Yes.

1989. Now what was your dividend in the year 1858?—The dividend in 1858 was $7\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.; in 1859, it was 8 per cent.; in 1860, it was 9 per cent.; in 1861, it was $7\frac{3}{8}$ per cent.; in 1862, it was 10 per cent.; in 1863, it was 10 per cent., and 1 per cent. back dividend; in 1864, it was 10 per cent., and $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. back dividend; in 1865, it was 10 per cent., and $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. back dividend; in 1866, it was $8\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

1990. Now, with regard to 1866, do you confirm the evidence that has already been given, that you only earned $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and that the extra $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. was due to the sale of Boghead coal?—Quite so.

1991. You reduced the price of both gases at Christmas 1865, did you not?—Yes.

1992. Were you under any legal compulsion to do so?—No.

1993. Had you made that reserved fund contemplated by the Act of 1847?—No.

1994. Have you a reserved fund or a contingency fund?—We have a contingency fund.

1995. What is the amount of that fund?—About 20,000 *l.*

1996. How long has that been accumulating?—It has been accumulating for a vast number of years.

1997. It is not strictly a reserved fund under the Act of 1847, is it?—No, surely not.

1998. Have you added to that in bulk lately, or only carried to its credit the interest accruing from that sum?—The interest accruing from that sum, minus the amount that we may have taken from it to pay for coal losses at sea; we have no insurance.

1999. What were those sums taken from it to pay for the coal losses; it is not very large, I suppose; have you any notion; this, I understand, is not a fund created under the Act of 1847?—Oh, no.

2000. It is about 20,000 *l.* you say?—Yes.

2001. Have you any floating balance in addition; what is the floating balance carried over on the 31st of December last?—About 70 *l.*

2002. Have you been in the habit of carrying over any large sums as a floating balance?—They vary, but not a large amount.

2003. You never have created any reserve fund under the Act of 1847?—No.

2004. With

2004. With regard to the 20,000 *l.*, supposing you were to treat that 20,000 *l.* as a reserve fund under the Act of 1847, that would be one-fourth of what you would be entitled to lay by, for you would be entitled to lay by 81,000 *l.*, would you not?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

2005. One word about these coals; you buy the coals at your own risk, do you not?—Yes.

2006. And you do not insure?—No.

2007. You find that the cheapest way of carrying on business, probably?—Yes, or else we should insure.

2008. You buy at your own risk?—Yes.

2009. The price you pay is not the price delivered into the yard, because you deliver yourself into the yard?—Just so.

2010. You buy the coals at the colliery?—Yes.

2011. And you charter the ships?—Yes.

2012. You take all the risks?—Yes.

2013. Now, my learned friend said that you have only 70 *l.* or some small sum as balance. Have you sold anything else but the Boghead coal during the last year; any stock?—No.

2014. You reduced the stock down to the smallest amount; why did you sell that Boghead coal last year?—The Boghead coal had gone up to such a price that it was not profitable to the company to use it for gas-making purposes; we had an offer to take that portion of the contract which we did not want, and we sold it.

2015. Had you a large stock, or was it only a contract?—It was a contract.

2016. Not delivered into the premises, but a contract in Scotland?—Yes.

2017. The price went up so much that you thought it advisable to sell it?—Yes.

2018. Did you make a large profit upon that transaction?—We did.

2019. How does that appear in the accounts?—It is under the head miscellaneous receipts.

2020. Did you sell anything else last year or the year before, to make up that dividend?—No.

2021. Mr. *Richards.*] Old materials?

2022. Mr. *Webster.*] I suppose that sale of Boghead coal was an exceptional transaction?—Quite.

2023. Was there anything else that you sold which was unusual to make up this dividend?—Nothing unusual.

2024. What was the amount received; I will not ask the profit?—Something over 9,200 *l.*

2025. You were the accountant in the year 1864, were you not?—Yes.

2026. Did you make up the return at page 295 of the Blue-book of 1866 for the Chartered Gas Company?—I do not know what it is.

2027. Will you look at it (*handing the book to the Witness*); did you make that up?—No.

2028. Who made it up?—That is not my table; I made up the accounts for the Secretary of State.

2029. *Chairman.*] Did you make up the account shown in that particular paper?—No; it is headed "Papers handed in by Mr. Hughes."

2030. Mr. *Webster.*] Have you the accounts of 1864 there?—I have not.

2031. Then take 1866. What were the directors' allowances in 1866?—The directors' allowances are just under 2,500 *l.*; and, in addition to that, there was a testimonial presented to the directors by the proprietors to the amount of 1,575 *l.*, making the amount 4,071 *l.*

2032. That was in 1866?—Yes.

2033. Had there been any increase of allowance to the directors in the year 1865?—No.

2034. Had the directors' fees or allowances continued the same during 1864 and 1865, until they were increased in 1866?—They have not been increased.

2035. You have stated the figure that was paid?—Yes.

 2036. *Chairman.*]

Mr. *T. Bush.*

3 June 1867.

2036. *Chairman.*] £. 2,500 was the regular fee, and there was 1,575 *l.* in addition?—Yes.

2037. Mr. *Webster.*] The directors' allowances for 1864 were 2,387 *l.*?—Very possibly.

2038. That is not a very large difference, but we may take it that the directors' allowances were the same in 1864 and 1865?—They were at the same rate, but the amount might vary.

2039. Do you pay the allowances by the number of attendances?—Yes.

2040. What were the salaries in 1866?—£. 8,562.

2041. They had been increased in that year, had they not?—The company have a regular scale of increase, which is carried on; we have a periodical increase every year.

2042. *Chairman.*] Depending upon length of service, I suppose?—Yes, quite so, up to a certain point.

2043. Mr. *Peel.*] Does that 8,000 *l.* include the secretary's salary?—Yes.

2044. The secretary's salary was 1,500 *l.*?—Yes.

2045. Mr. *Webster.*] What is the secretary's salary now?—£. 1,200.

2046. The secretary's salary is now 1,200 *l.* you say?—Yes.

2047. And was 1,200 *l.*?—Yes.

2048. Has there been no increase in the secretary's salary?—I am not prepared to say when the increase took place.

2049. But has there been any increase of late in the secretary's salary?—No, not lately.

2050. Within what period has there been an increase?—It might have been last year.

2051. Mr. *Goldney.*] But your accounts will enable you to give a correct answer, surely?—No; I have not got the dates of increase of salary.

2052. *Chairman.*] Has the burden on your working expenses, diminishing thereby your divisible profit, been considerably increased of late by any changes in the payments made to the directors, or secretary, or clerks?—I might say not very materially; there is not any vast increase, except that 1,500 *l.*

2053. Is there a regular scale of increase, according to length of service?—Yes.

2054. Has that scale been altered lately?—No, not for years.

2055. Mr. *Webster.*] The total amount of salaries in the year 1866 was 8,500 *l.*, you say?—Yes.

2056. Can you account for the increase between 1864 and 1866, 7,250 *l.* being the amount in 1864?—I could make it up, if I were at home, of course.

Mr. *Peel.*] It would be that the secretary's salary was not included in the 7,250 *l.*, perhaps.

Mr. *Webster.*] It ought to be included.

Chairman.] If it is intended to show that, in consequence of new arrangements, there has been a general profuseness in the expenditure, *that* one understands; but, unless it is something of that kind, these mere details of the accounts of the company have no interest.

Mr. *Webster.*] We are told that they must have 13 *d.* on the gas made to pay a certain dividend, and that they must have 1 *s.* 4 *d.* on the gas sold to pay the same. Now, we want to get at the distinction between the cost of the materials, the cost of manufacture, and the cost of management.

Chairman.] I quite understand. The total of their working expenses for these purposes is either already before us, or a single question would put it before us. But the two things that are of importance are, first, what is that gross charge, and, secondly, whether it is greater than it need be; and in that is included the question whether, in consequence of the arrangements of 1860, there has been any sudden increase, showing profuseness arising from that arrangement.

2057-8. Mr. *Webster* (to the *Witness*).] Now you gave us the total cost of coals including dues in 1866, I think; what was that sum?—£. 140,358.

2059. *Chairman.*] Does that include cannel?—Yes.

2060. Mr. *Webster.*] That is coal as paid for at the colliery?—At the works.

2061. That includes the shipping and delivery?—Everything.

2062. And freight?—Everything.

2063. You have a contract at the collieries, and you then ship the coals yourselves or charter ships?—Yes.

2064. What was the total sum received from the residual products in the year 1866?—£. 49,344.

2065. *Chairman.*] And the net cost of your coal is the difference?—Yes, quite so.

2066. Mr. *Webster.*] One more question only. What was the total expenditure on every item in the year 1866?—The total is 244,201 *l.*

2067. That includes every expenditure?—Yes.

2068. For 1866?—Yes.

2069. Are you aware that in Mr. Hughes' return for 1864, the total expenditure is 307,575 *l.*?—No, I am not.

Chairman.] Mr. Goldney points out that that 307,575 *l.* includes the shareholders' profit of 86,000 *l.*

Mr. *Webster.*] Yes, you are quite right; I beg your pardon.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

2070. What was the difference of price in Boghead coal which induced you to sell your contract?—

Chairman.] We have got the fact that it rose very much in price.

2071. Mr. *Richards.*] It appears that in the year 1866 a larger sum is debited to salaries. During that year had the number of your accounts considerably increased?—No doubt; there is an extension going on every year.

2072. The simple answer is, yes?—Yes, they have.

2073. You had reduced the price of gas in December 1865?—Yes.

2074. Am I right in saying that though the amount of rental is little, if at all more, the number of the accounts at a lower rate have very much increased?—Yes.

2075. Had you found it necessary to have additional clerks in the establishment?—I cannot recollect that.

2076. It appears that you have a system of graduated increase year by year until you come up to a certain point?—Yes.

2077. Is that the mode in which you increase the remuneration of your younger clerks?—Yes.

2078. Does that apply in any degree to your directors?—No.

2079. They are paid by attendances, I suppose?—Yes.

2080. If they do not attend they do not get paid?—Just so.

2081. The present secretary came about four or five years ago?—Yes.

2082. And has had an annual increase in salary until it reached the present amount?—Yes, I fancy it is annual.

2083. *Chairman.*] Have you never been desired to ascertain what the relative advantages to the company were of selling cannel or coal gas?—No.

2084. Mr. *Lefevre.*] You said that you had raised 120,000 *l.* capital since the year 1860?—£.150,000.

2085. Is that the total amount that you are entitled to raise, or have you any further powers?—Yes, we have.

2086. How much is that?—£.90,000.

2087. Is that under an Act of Parliament older than 1860?—Yes, it is under the act of 1823.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *George Henderson*, is called in; and Examined by Mr. *Denison*.

Mr. *G. Henderson*.

3 June 1867.

2088. ARE you Secretary and Manager of the Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Company?—Yes.

2089. The Plymouth Company is one that was put in as a cheap company in Mr. Hughes' table of prices; the price is 2 *s.* 9 *d.*?—Yes.

2090. *Chairman.*] What is the illuminating power of the gas?—Thirteen candles.

2091. Mr. *Denison.*] You know the London gas?—Yes.

2092. Is your 13-candle gas equal to the London gas?—No, it is not quite equal to the London gas, I should say.

2093. Your company was established in 1844, I think?—Yes.

2094. You are established as a competing company with another company?—Yes.

2095. In the year 1848 you bought up the old company, did you not?—Yes, we bought up the United General Gas Company.

2096. You appear to have bought that company at rather a low price?—I think, on the whole, that it turned out very advantageous for the company; at the time that the purchase was made it might not have been termed a low price, perhaps.

2097. You gave less for the works than they cost?—Yes, but we had a plant which we did not require, though it came in very advantageously ultimately.

2098. The purchase money was to be paid in instalments, was it not?—Yes, it was.

2099. You paid the instalments gradually very much out of the profits, did you not?—Entirely out of the profits.

2100. So that your capital nominally was less than was paid really?—Considerably less.

2101. In 1855 you obtained further capital, did you not?—Yes, we went to Parliament for it.

2102. You were brought under the usual condition at that time; Parliament fixed the price and fixed the power?—Yes.

2103. What was your price fixed at?—Six shillings as the maximum.

2104. And your power was fixed at what?—Ten candles.

2105. You have now gradually reduced the price to 2 *s.* 9 *d.*?—Yes.

2106. That has been a gradual process?—Yes.

2107. What is your dividend?—At present we are paying the maximum dividend, and have been doing so for some years, but for many years we did not; we were appropriating profits at that time to liquidating the price of the old company.

2108. *Chairman.*] You are now paying 10 per cent. dividend?—Yes.

2109. Mr. *Denison.*] Have you compared your working expenses with those of the London companies?—I have.

2110. Which company have you compared them with?—I have taken an average of the whole of them that are not supplying cannel gas; eleven other companies.

2111. First, with regard to the price of coal; it is not much cheaper in Plymouth than in London, is it?—No, it is about the same.

2112. Now with regard to other things, labour and other materials, are you better off than London?—Yes.

2113. How much per thousand?—About 4 *d.* per thousand in favour of Plymouth.

2114. You have got that in detail, I believe, if anybody wants it?—Yes.

2115. The cost of making gas at Plymouth for the year ending the 31st March 1867; how much was that?——

2116. *Chairman.*] This 4 *d.* per 1,000 is everything except the price of coal?—Yes; that is about it as near as we can get.

2117. Mr. *Denison.*] I will just glance over the items you have got down; bricklayers you give the wages at 28 *s.* per week?—Yes; in London it varies from 33 *s.* to 37 *s.*

2118. Smiths 26 *s.*?—Yes, it is 33 *s.* to 36 *s.* in London; stoker, 24 *s.* in Plymouth, 27 *s.* 6 *d.* to 34 *s.* in London.

2119. The

2119. The stoker is a large item in the labour?—Yes, it is the principal item; the wages in Plymouth is 24 *s.*, whereas in London it is from 27 *s.* 6 *d.* to 34 *s.*

2120. The cost of making gas last year on gas sold, was how much?—2 *s.* 3 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

2121. *Chairman.*] What was it on the quantity made?—It would work out to about 2 *s.* 7½ *d.*; the leakage is about 4½ *d.*

2122. Mr. *Denison.*] Besides paying off the price of that old company out of the profits, have you made extensions and things of that sort out of the profits?—Yes, large extensions from time to time.

2123. How much did those extensions cost?—Including the amount paid to the old company, and the extension, from time to time, it would be about 50,000 *l.*

2124. Mr. *Rodwell.*] Since 1848?—In 1847 we commenced, I think; it is within a year or so.

2125. Mr. *Denison.*] Now, your capital having been reduced so much, what is your present capital?—72,000 *l.* is the amount of the paid-up capital.

2126. It would have been 122,000 *l.*, or thereabouts?—About that; fully that; it would have been near 140,000 *l.*

2127. How do you get it to that?—We have done more than that really; we have really other items not included in that account.

2128. I will be content with 140,000 *l.*, if you are sure that is right. You have paid out of what may be called fair capital equal to 140,000 *l.*?—Yes, 50,000 *l.* has been expended out of the profits, besides the paid-up capital on other works; and we had other items.

2129. *Chairman.*] They must either come in or they must be left out?—Then take it at 50,000 *l.*

2130. Mr. *Denison.*] Then what am I to do with regard to the 140,000 *l.*?—It would be 122,000.

2131. Mr. *Peel.*] What is the amount of capital in your book?—Paid up capital, 72,000 *l.*

2132. And the 50,000 *l.* makes 122,000 *l.*?—Yes.

2133. Mr. *Denison.*] How much does the present nominal capital require as profit per 1,000 feet, to pay the dividend of 10 per cent.?—8 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

2134. Whereas the average capital of the London companies requires 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 feet?—Yes, the average of London companies require 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, and most companies throughout England would require a similar amount, 1 *s.* 4 *d.*, I think.

2135. Mr. *Peel.*] You require 8 *d.* to pay a dividend of 10 per cent.?—Yes.

2136. Mr. *Denison.*] Besides that there is a difference of 4 *d.* in the labour, so that we get an exact difference of 1 *s.* between your condition and the London condition?—Yes.

2137. Your gas is not as good as the London gas is, you say?—Not quite so good.

2138. Have you calculated what it would take to pay you the 10 per cent. dividend on the 122,000 *l.* capital; how much per 1,000 cubic feet?—From 1 *s.* 1 *d.* to 14 *d.*; it would require about that.

2139. That is to say, 1 *s.* 2 *d.* against the London 1 *s.* 4 *d.*?—1 *s.* 1 *d.* to 1 *s.* 2 *d.* per 1,000.

2140. How much coal did you carbonise last year?—18,725 tons.

2141. How much does that make your capital per ton?—It would work out to about 4 *d.* on the paid-up capital.

2142. Mr. *Peel.*] Not including the 50,000 *l.*?—No.

2143. Mr. *Denison.*] How much does the real capital work out to?—£.6. 10 *s.*

2144. Supposing you were paying your actual dividend upon the 122,000 *l.*, what would it pay?—If we were paying a dividend on the 122,000 *l.* instead of the 72,000 *l.*, is that the question?

2145. Yes?—That would work out to about 6 *l.* per cent.

2146. What do you pay for coal now?—16 *s.* 10 *d.* was the average price last year, including cannel and common coal.

2147. Risen from how much?—15 *s.* 3 *d.*

2148. In what time?—In three years.

Mr. *G. Henderson.*

3 June 1867.

2149. The price of cannel has risen from 24 *s.* to 39 *s.* in the same time?—Yes.

2150. If the price of coal goes on rising at this rate, do you think you will be able to keep up a revenue which would pay you the dividend of 10 per cent.?—No, we should not; we are barely able to do that now.

2151. You are not under any restriction against raising your price again when once lowered?—No; in fact, many years ago we had to increase our price in consequence of coal getting up during the Crimean war; 1 *s.* per 1,000 was the increase then made.

2152. Do you find that the increase in the value of the residual products keeps pace with the increase in the price of coal?—No, not at all; it has diminished.

2153. Although the price of coal has increased?—Although the price of coal has increased. I find in 1856 we were getting 9 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton, this year we are only getting 6 *s.* 7½ *d.* per ton; there has been a gradual diminution in the value of the reserve fund.

2154. With regard to the capital per ton, you have examined some other companies with regard to the capital per ton, have you not; take Brighton for instance?—Yes.

2155. How much per ton is it at Brighton?—Brighton would be 7 *l.* per ton.

2156. Devonport, how much?—£. 7.

2157. Exeter, how much?—£. 6. 15 *s.*

2158. Hastings?—£. 7. 10 *s.*

2159. Leamington?—£. 8.

2160. Torquay?—About 7 *l.*

2161. Bath?—About 6 *l.* 10 *s.*; that is the capital per ton of coal.

2162. Have you any particular reason for selecting those places?—Simply that I am in possession of information about them, and not about others.

2163. Can you understand Mr. Stevenson saying that the cost per ton of gas works might generally be taken at 4 *l.*?—That was Mr. Hughes' statement; it is quite inapplicable to the companies generally; it might apply to one in 100 perhaps, but, I feel satisfied, not to companies generally; besides, no fixed price per ton could be laid down; the construction of the works would vary considerably. At Plymouth we have limestone and every building material touching our works, and we can make our erections much cheaper than some other places.

2164. Mr. Stevenson told us that the works ought to cost about 20 *s.* a head, 20 *s.* to 30 *s.*?—I have not gone into any calculation upon that, but I put no faith in any such random calculation; it is not based on any fact at all.

2165. Mr. *Peel.*] £. 6. 10 *s.* is the lowest per ton you know practically?—Yes, it cannot be worked out at a lower sum than that as a rule.

2166. Mr. *Denison.*] Taking the actual price of cannel, have you calculated at what price it can be supplied in London?—At present Lothian cannel, which Mr. Hughes stated cost 35 *s.*, would cost 39 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton.

2167. With regard to the increase in the quality or power of gas by one or two candles, when you get up to 14 candles, can that be done without a very considerable increase of cost?—No, it cannot be done; 12 to 14 candles means something like 4 *d.* or 5 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet at least; take common gas at 12 candles, if you bring it to 14 candles it involves a cost of about 5 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet at least; you must use 5 per cent. of cannel to do that.

2168. *Chairman.*] You said that there was some cannel included in your expenditure?—Yes, abont 5 per cent.; that would be the average throughout the year, sometimes it would be a little more, and sometimes a little less.

2169. Mr. *Denison.*] That is required to produce with safety on an average 13-candle gas?—Yes.

2170. Have you made any calculation for raising the power of gas up to 18 candles?—Yes, I have made a calculation to that effect, and I find that it would increase the cost to about 11 *d.* beyond four candles; it would work out to about 2¾ *d.* per candle, as near as possible.

2171. Do you believe that the general rise of the power of gas to about 14 candles is steadily raising the price of cannel?—Certainly.

2172. Besides using it for oil and other purposes?—We have found a gradual rise in the price of cannel ever since we commenced using it.

2173. You

2173. You attribute that to a gradual increase of the use of it for gas, I suppose?—Yes.

2174. Besides the use of it for oil and other purposes?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

2175. Are you a gas engineer?—I am manager and secretary of the Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Company.

2176. You are not a gas engineer?—I did not say that I was.

2177–8. You are not a gas engineer are you in fact?—I have told you what I am.

Chairman.] The witness does not wish to assume that title; he tells you plainly what he is.

2179. Mr. *Rodwell.*] Have you ever constructed any gas works?—No.

2180. Have you ever worked any except those that you superintend at Plymouth?—Yes.

2181. Where?—I have works at Launceston, of my own, in connection with one or two individuals.

2182. You are secretary as well as manager?—Yes, I am secretary and manager, and I have been in that capacity for 14 years.

2183. Are you giving these figures as your own calculations, or do you get them from other persons figures: with regard to the cost of production, and so on, is that your own calculation?—It is my own calculation.

2184. I understood you to say that, increasing the power to 18 candles, as against 14, would be a cost of 11 *d.*?—Yes.

2185. How do you arrive at that?—To produce 18 candle gas, it would take half a ton of cannel and half a ton of Newcastle coal.

2186. What prices do you put for them?—I find that my calculation is for 16 candles only.

2187. Do you mean that the 11 *d.* is due to the increase from 14 to 16 candles?—No.

2188. How much do you put that at?—It is 5 *d.* from 14 to 16.

2189. How much from 16 to 18?—I have not worked out 18; but say two candles.

2190. How came you to say, just now, that the increase to 18 candles would be 11 *d.*?—It is the cost per candle. I find that it makes a difference of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to $2\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per candle.

2191. Do you speak of that calculation with any confidence?—Yes, I feel perfectly confident.

2192. Then for every candle is there an increase of from $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to $2\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per candle?—Yes.

2193. Is that from 12 to 14 candles upwards?—From 14 candles upwards.

2194. May I take it that there is the same increase from 10 candles up to 12 candles, and from 10 to 14 candles?—No, we do not want cannel for 12-candle gas, it is above that that we require it.

2195. It is entirely due to the cannel?—Yes.

2196. You say that the relative price of coal at Plymouth and London is about equal?—Yes, taking it upon the average.

2197. There is only a difference of 4 *d.* or so for labour?—Yes, labour and other little things; increase in repairs.

2198. How do you get the extra cost in London; how is that made up?—It requires 1 *s.* 4 *d.* for dividend, instead of 8 *d.*

2199. But I am only on the question of production——

2200. I understood you to say that the cost of manufacturing gas in London was so much greater than the cost of manufacturing gas at Plymouth, 4 *d.* greater; now, is 4 *d.* the extent to which you go?—Yes.

2201. That is from the difference in the price of labour you say?—Principally.

2202. Is the cost of distributing at Plymouth the same as in London?—The cost of distributing at Plymouth is 1·60 *d.*, whereas the cost of distributing in London in some companies, the Chartered Gas Company for instance, is 2·3 *d.*, ordinary repair, maintenance, and so on; in one company, the City of London, it is 4·81 *d.*

2203. *Chairman.*] You have not taken the average cost of distribution, have you?

Mr. *G. Henderson.*

3 June 1867.

you?—No; I take the average cost including distribution, which works out to 2 *s.* 7 *d.* in London, against 2 *s.* 3 *d.* in Plymouth.

2204. Mr. *Rodwell.*] The cost of distribution is regulated by the area over which you have to take your pipes a good deal, is it not?—To some extent it is.

2205. But is not that the whole difference, the thicker the population, and the more the consumption is concentrated, the less the cost of distribution?—That does not always follow.

2206 But other things being equal it does so, does it not; is the cost of distribution less or greater at Plymouth, than it is in the average of the London companies?—Not much less, it is about the same, I should say; but I have not gone minutely into that matter.

2207. How long have you been paying 10 per cent. dividend?—We commenced paying 10 per cent dividend in 1855.

2208. What were you charging in 1855?—We were charging 6 *s.* in 1855.

2209. You were paying 10 per cent., and you were charging 6 *s.*; will you tell me when you reduced your price to 2 *s.* 9 *d.*?—We reduced our price to 2 *s.* 9 *d.* in September 1863.

2210. You were paying 10 per cent. during the whole of that period; how do you account for the difference in the price that you charged; you have given us 10 per cent., when you were charging 6 *s.*, and then up to 1863, when you reduced it to 2 *s.* 9 *d.*, you were giving 10 per cent.?—In 1855 we required 1 *s.* per 1,000 to pay our dividend, and in 1863 we required only 7 *d.* per 1,000.

2211. How was that difference caused; take the 6 *s.* and the 2 *s.* 9 *d.*, what were the circumstances attending the cost of production in 1855 which enabled you only to pay 10 per cent. with 6 *s.*, and what were the circumstances in 1863 when you reduced it to 2 *s.* 9 *d.*, which also enabled you to pay 10 per cent.?—In 1855 the quantity produced was only 80,393,000, whereas in the year 1863 the quantity of gas produced was 149,982,000, and the capital, I believe, was about the same as near as possible. We had expended in the year 1855, 53,350 *l.*, and in the year 1865 only 57,500 *l.*, with more than double the consumption.

2212. Then the cost of gas, or rather the diminution of price, was caused by the increase of consumption?—Partly.

2213. Were there any other circumstances attending the cost of production?—The price of coal was lower just previous to 1855 or 1856.

2214. But in 1855 you ought to have charged less for your gas than 6 *s.*, ought you not?—We were then appropriating large sums to pay off the old company's works; we had no other means.

2215. Will you look at that letter (*Handing a letter to the Witness*); is it in your handwriting?—Yes.

2216. It is dated 2nd July 1864, and it is addressed to Messrs. Wright and Company, who are gas people in the Strand; it is to this effect: "Gentlemen, I have duly received your favour of the 30th instant, and I enclose report and balance sheet of this company for the last two years. The quantity of gas manufactured for the year ending 31st March, 1864, was 149,982,000 cubic feet; I am at a loss to understand why gas cannot be rendered in London for the same price as in Plymouth, the cost of coal being somewhat less in London. The reason assigned by the editor of the 'Journal of Gas Lighting' for the low price of gas at Plymouth, will apply even more forcibly to the London gas companies." Now what has happened since 1864 that you have changed your opinion?—Labour; I was not aware of the expenses of labour at that time.

2217. When did you find this out?—Only recently.

2218. You took it from the average of seven companies?—Yes.

2219. When you said that in 1864 you had not considered the question of labour?—No, I had not.

2220. "I am at a loss to understand why gas cannot be rendered in London at the same price, 2 *s.* 9 *d.*, as at Plymouth?"—I was not aware that it required so much per 1,000 cubic feet to pay the dividend on the capital.

2221. Dismissing the question of capital out of consideration altogether, and the 10 per cent. dividend, and looking at the abstract question of producing the gas, are you still of opinion that gas might be produced at the same price as in London, or not?—Not at the present rate of wages.

2222. What

Mr. *G. Henderso*

3 June 1867.

2222. What do you mean by the answer you gave me just now, having reference to the capital of the London companies?—The London companies require 16 *d.* per thousand, and we only require 8 *d.*

2223. That is to make a 10 per cent. dividend?—That is to make a 10 per cent. dividend.

2224. In writing that letter in 1864, you had not thought it worth your while to consider the question of labour and wages?—I had not; I had not gone into the item of wages; I was not aware that the wages paid in London were so high.

Re-examined by Mr. *Denison.*

2225. In short, in 1864 you say you did not know, but in 1867 you do know?—Yes.

2226. Now in 1855, as to the price of coal; you said sometime ago, that in the Crimean War things rose; do you know whether the price of coal was high in 1855?—Yes, it jumped up very high.

2227. You told my learned friend that you were paying off instalments till in 1855. I suppose one reason why you have been enabled to reduce your price is, that that plant, which you bought, which was at first superfluous, has now become useful?—It has become available.

2228. Now about your $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a candle. Your $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* works out very much, does it not, to the same thing as the difference warranted by the Act of 1860, where there is 18 *d.* allowed between 12 candle gas at 4*s.* 6 *d.*, and cannel gas, which is 20 candle at 6 *s.*?—Yes.

2229. Does your calculation very much agree with that?—Yes, pretty much.

2230. Among other information which you have got, have you been told anything about the cost of repairing in London, after opening the streets, as compared with Plymouth?—No, but I presume it is higher in London.

2231. Can you tell me, as a matter of fact, whether your streets in Plymouth are laid upon concrete as they are in London?—They are not.

2232. By the *Committee.*] What is the rate of wages in Plymouth?—Stokers are 24 *s.* as against 34 *s.*, and labour 16 *s.* as against 20 *s.* to 21 *s.*

Mr. *John Reid* sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

Mr. *John Reid*

2233. You are Engineer of the Edinburgh and Leith Gas Company, I believe?—I am.

2234. How many years have you been engaged in the management of gas works?—About 25.

2235. In Scotland all the time?—In Scotland all the time.

2236. Part of it at Montrose?—Part of it at Montrose, and seven years at Edinburgh and Leith.

2237. I believe your company is not the only company which supplies Edinburgh and Leith?—No, it is not; there is the Edinburgh Company and the Edinburgh and Leith Company: those two companies.

2238. Do they both supply the same district?—They both supply both districts.

2239. And they both supply cannel gas only, I believe?—Yes, cannel gas only.

2240. Let us go particularly into the question of the Edinburgh and Leith Company, which is your company; how many cubic feet do they sell annually?—In the present year about 200 millions.

2241. The year terminating when?—The 15th of May.

2242. Are the Edinburgh and Leith Company under any Parliamentary regulations as to illuminating power?—No.

2443. What kind of cannel do they use; is it all one particular kind, or do they mix the different cannels?—They employ usually eight or ten different varieties continually; about eight or ten varieties, not all one kind.

2244. All Scotch?—All Scotch.

2245. And coming, I presume, from Lanarkshire, Mid-Lothian, and Fife?—Yes.

2246. Is there any other cannel?—No.

Mr. *John Reid.*

3 June 1867.

2247. Those are the three cannel-fields?—Yes, those are the three.

2248. The quantity of gas supplied from those mixtures of cannel per ton is how much?—According to the mixture, from 9,500 feet to 10,500 feet; an average of 10,000, I should say.

2449. Are you now taking the same illuminating power for the larger and lesser quantity; that is to say, whether you take 9,500 or 10,500, are you always assuming the same illuminating power?—Yes.

2250. By the *Committee.*] How many candles?—From 25 to 27 candles.

2251. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Now you mix your cannel gases, and therefore have the experience, I suppose, of the effect of all of them, and of their power of producing gas under various forms?—We mix the cannels in the process of distillation in the proportions I have mentioned.

2252. Do you find them all very sensitive; that is to say, are they liable to a greater variety of illuminating power than common coal?—I think so.

2253. Do you find that a change in the atmosphere and the temperature in which they are distilled, makes a great difference in their illuminating power?—Yes.

2254. In winter, giving the same illuminating power, do you require a higher class of cannel?—Yes.

2255. What does your gas sold to consumers cost the company for coal; I put it to you the gas sold, which means your quantity made?—22·66 *d.*

2256. By the *Committee.*] That is the cost of the cannel?—That is the cost of the cannel on the gas sold per 1,000 feet for the year ending May 1866. I cannot speak to the present year yet.

2257. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You have deducted, I suppose, the gas lost and unaccounted for before you give that price per thousand?—Yes.

2258. That is the gas to the consumer's meter?—Yes.

2259. What is your per-centage of unaccounted for gas?—Last year 15·82 per cent.

2260. Was that much in excess of your previous unaccounted for gas?—It has been becoming less year by year.

2261. Then I presume you must have been some years ago at a considerably higher figure?—Yes.

2262. Do you remember what it was when you came, seven years ago?—The highest about 20.

2263. It has been as high as 20?—Yes.

2264. How much of that would you attribute to actual leakage from pipes?—It is very difficult to say; I do not at all attribute such a per-centage to leakage from pipes.

2265. But you have been able to reduce the per-centage, we hear, from 20 down to something like 16; what measures did you adopt which had that effect?—So far as the per-centage has been attributable to leakage, our savings have been in that particular especially. We have renewed a considerable number of our main pipes, and the leakage has come down in proportion, because our sales have largely increased, and we have had less increase in the extension of our mains; we are sending more gas through the same mains.

2266. But the consumption per mile or per yard, as the case may be, being greater now than it was formerly?—Yes.

2267. What you have been able to do with regard to leakage, properly so called, has been to bring it down about 4 per cent.?—To 15·82.

2268. That is the difference between 20 and 16?—Yes.

2269. Do you suppose that you lose much by the public lamps, for instance?—Yes, a good deal, I think.

2270. Miscalculation of quantity?—Yes.

2271. Excess generally?—Yes.

2272. Fraudulent abstraction?—To some extent.

2273. Irregularity of meters?—A good deal.

2274. And of course condensation has something to do with it?—It has to do with it very considerably.

2275. You are favourably situated, I suppose, in Edinburgh with regard to the actual leakage and disturbance of your pipes; you have not them laid in very narrow streets, or with a great traffic upon them?—No, we are very favourably situated in that respect.

2276. Where

2276. Where they are in narrow streets, with many pipes, and a great traffic, of course the tendency to disjointing is great?—It is very much increased.

2277. Now, a word about coal. I suppose you have deducted from your cost price whatever you could get out of the Scotch cannel in the way of residual products?—No, I have not.

2278. You have not; that has to come off yet, has it?—That has to come off.

2279. I believe you do not get as good coke from Scotch cannel, by any means, as from Newcastle coal?—Not nearly.

2280. Nor so much in quantity?—No; but I am not experienced in the case of Newcastle gas-making coal.

2281. Will you tell us what you get from your Scotch cannel?—For the present year we shall have consumed about 20,000 tons of cannel coal; and after deducting the amount of coke which we use as fuel, and also deducting a very large proportion we have to throw away as utterly useless, we shall realise something like 300 *l.* for coke sold.

2282. And other products; have you any other products?—Yes.

2283. I want the whole of the residual products that you are able to sell?—We dispose of our liquids, coal tar and oils, and ammoniacal water; in fact all our liquids, to a company who have it by contract. For the year I refer to, ending 1866, it was 2 *s.* per ton on the coal carbonised; that is for the year ending May 1866.

2284. Have you made any calculation to show how much of what you reserve for residual products would go in reducing the cost price?—Yes; 1 *s.* 10 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

2285. By the *Committee.*] I understand you to say that it is about a tenth of the cost; is that so for liquids?—2 *s.* a ton upon the coal carbonised.

2286. That is liquids only?—Yes.

2287. Then there is the coke?—Yes, that comes to very little account, because we make use of what is good for fuel.

2288. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You use nearly the whole of your coke for carbonising?—We throw, I suppose, more than one-third of it out, as the coke from a variety of cannel coal is useless for fuel altogether.

2289. You have given us 20,000 tons of cannel; can you give us the total cost of that cannel, and then the total receipt from the residual product?—I am not quite prepared to go into the figures.

2290. My question is this; you have given us 1 *s.* 10 *d.* and 2-3rds as the cost of 1,000 cubic feet, deducting unaccounted for gas?—One shilling and tenpence and 2-3rds is the cost of the coal.

2291. Deducting the 15 per cent., as I understood you, that is to say, for gas sold, and deducting the unaccounted for gas before you get at that figure?—Our coal costs us 22 *d.* 2-3rds per ton, without taking account of what we derive from the coke.

2292. Can you deduct from that what you derive from your residual products which come from the cannel?—I am not quite prepared to go into those figures.

2293. By the *Committee.*] Could you do that afterwards?—I could.

2294. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Can you tell us what your 20,000 tons of cannel cost you altogether?—I cannot give it you exactly.

2295. By the *Committee.*] You say that you sell all your residuals, except coke, to one company?—Yes.

2296. What did they pay you in the year you are speaking of?—The year I speak of they paid us, upon about 18,000 tons, at 2 *s.* per ton, for the year ending May 1866.

2297. What I understand you to say is, that you used in that year 20,000 tons?—The present year we used 20,000 tons.

2298. Are you giving me the particulars for the same year?—No, the 18,000 tons is for the previous year, 1866.

2299. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Did you get 2 *s.* a ton as a rule?—We did.

2300. And do you now?—Yes.

2301. We will take it at 2 *s.* upon 20,000 tons?—We are getting rather more now.

2302. What are you getting now; about 2 *s.* 6 *d.*?—I am not quite sure.

2303. Is it 2 *s.* 3 *d.*, do you think?—I should think it is.

Mr. *John Reid.*

3 June 1867.

2304. You cannot give us closer than that because you are speaking merely from memory?—I am speaking from certain knowledge that, had we a new contract to make now, we could not get 2 *s.* for it; there is such a change.

2305. By the *Committee.*] What did you say the average was per ton for the cannel coal?—I have not said yet; the cost price per ton for all varieties, for the year ending 1866, was about 16 *s.* 3 *d.*

2306. Have you taken 2 *s.* off for residual products?—Yes.

2307. That would be 14 *s.* 3 *d.*?—Yes.

2308. Then the coke?—The coke takes 300 *l.* off.

2309. The coke sold, and the rest you consumed?—The rest we consumed.

2310. How much coke does a ton of coal produce?—In money, do you mean?

2311. No, in quantity?—About nearly half its weight of solid matter.

2312. What is half-a-ton of coke worth?—It depends upon its quality; I have already mentioned that about one-third of the whole is useless for any purpose whatever.

2313. Then the whole cost of your cannel is 16 *s.* 3 *d.*, is that so?—That is for last year; it is dearer for the present year, about 16 *s.* 3 *d.*

2314. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You say 20,000 tons of cannel produced in the same year 300 *l.* worth of coke, sold at the rate of something above 2 *s.* a ton; for other products you do not know exactly the figure, but you say that you could not sell them for 2 *s.* now?—I am quite sure we could not.

2315. With regard to coke, you do not seem to be able to say exactly how much is produced by each ton of cannel, because it varies so much, but as a matter of fact, do you find that you must use double the usual quantity of coke in order to carbonise?—Yes.

2316. I believe you are obliged to have two furnaces to each oven, to keep up the heat, on account of the quality of the coke?—Yes.

2317. You have told us that your company is subject to no regulations as to illuminating power, nor as to price?—No.

2318. You have lately been obliged to raise your price, I believe?—We have.

2319. What was that owing to?—To the increasing price of cannel coal, and the cost of production generally.

2320. I believe you gave notice accordingly, that, in consequence of the great rise in the price of Parratt coal, and the cost of production generally, the price of gas in the quarter after that which was then ending, until further notice, would be raised to 4 *s.* 10 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet; the discount and meters to remain as at present?—Both companies in Edinburgh advertised in nearly similar terms, in the Edinburgh newspapers, I think on the 9th of October last.

2321. What had your price been previous to that?—4 *s.* 4 *d.*

2322. I believe that that rise was not confined to Edinburgh?—Previous to announcing the advance in price, we made inquiries of the various companies in Scotland, to ascertain what their views were as to meeting the difficulty of the advancing price in Parratt coal (cannel coal); and, after some little time, we got returns from several companies who had advanced their price for the same reasons as ourselves.

2323. Will you give us those returns?—Aberdeen, advanced from 5 *s.* 5*d.* to 5 *s.* 10 *d.* per 1,000 feet, being an increase of 5 *d.*; Arbroath, 5 *s.* to 5 *s.* 10 *d.*, being an increase of 10 *d.*; Dundee, 4 *s.* 8 *d.* to 5 *s.* 2 *d.*, being an increase of 6 *d.*; the Edinburgh Gas Company, 4 *s.* 4 *d.* to 4 *s.* 10 *d.*, being an increase of 6 *d.*; the Edingurgh and Leith Company, 4 *s.* 4 *d.* to 4 *s.* 10 *d.*, being an increase of 6 *d.*; Hamilton, 5 *s.* to 5 *s.* 10 *d.*, being an increase of 10 *d.*; Kircaldy, 4 *s.* 5 *d.* to 4 *s.* 10 *d.*, increase 5 *d.*; Musselburgh, 5 *s.* to 5 *s.* 5 *d.*, increase 5 *d.*; Portobello, 5 *s.* to 5 *s.* 5 *d.*, increase 5 *d.*; Montrose, 5 *s.* to 5 *s.* 10 *d.*, increase 10 *d.*; Perth, 4 *s.* 2 *d.* to 6 *s.* 8 *d.*, increase 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

2324. Increase 1 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Yes; and there are others, I believe, who have advanced, but from whom I have not had returns in time to make use of them.

2325. All those towns, I think, except Aberdeen, are tolerably near to some kind or other of Parratt or cannel coal?—Yes, I think so.

2326. Hamilton is nearly in the middle of them, is not it?—Yes.

2327. Those

2327. Those places are either in or close to Fife, or in or close to Mid-Lothian, are they not?—Yes.

2328. With the exception of Montrose?—Yes; Arbroath and Montrose, Aberdeen and Dundee, may be considered out of the coal fields, all the others are within a convenient distance.

2329. Dundee is close to Fife?—Yes.

2330. Have you adopted your alteration in price in order to keep, in some degree, the same sort of relation in increase as the other towns?—Yes.

2331. You nearly all supply cannel gas, do not you, in Scotland?—Yes, I think almost entirely.

2332. Now, a little more detail about the Scotch cannels; they are the cannels of the Mid-Lothian fields, namely, the New Battle and Arniston?—Yes, they are the first class, I estimate them.

2333. Then there is the west country coal, the Lismahagow, and the Riggside, and Parratt coal?—Yes, they are first-class coals.

2334. What will the first-class Scotch cannel yield in the way of illuminating power?—Taking the New Battle as a very fair example of the first-class quality, from my own experience and repeated trials, it would give about from 33 to 34 candles, not more.

2335. That is what you would call the first-class?—Yes.

2336. How many cannels are there in Scotland equal to that; do you reckon the Lismahagow equal to that?—Yes, I think about.

2337. Can you name any other cannel by the particular name of the place which would be equal to that?—I can name one, but I am sorry to say it is shut up, and I doubt whether it is likely to yield any coal for sometime; that is Overton, I think it is rather better than either.

2338. It is shut up, and not likely to yield any for sometime; why is that?—It is the difficulty of winning the coal I understand; at any rate I have learnt that from the agent.

2339. At any rate you can get none of it just now?—No.

2340. Now let us go to the second class, if you please, what will that be?—In candle power?

2341. Yes?—I classify these cannels which give 21-candle power and upwards as the first class; the second class those which yield from 15 to 21 candles; and the third class those under 15.

2342. So that there are Scotch cannels under 15 candles?—Yes, several varieties.

2343. Which are those you look upon as the second class, namely, from 15 to 21 candles?—There are a great number.

2344. May I take Wilsontown as one?—Wilsontown, Heywood, and Cleugh, and several varieties in the Mid-Lothian district, Grange near Boness, and several others.

2345. By the *Committee.*] That low class of coal would not be worth bringing to London, would it?—It is doubtful whether it would.

2346. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Do you mean the second class?—Yes, the second class.

2347. Now, upon the question of price; your first classes that you have given us are Lismahagow, and New Battle and Overton, to which we may add Arniston. Now, will you give us the price in 1864 of Arniston?—20 *s.* per ton, delivered at our works.

2348. What is the price in 1867?—25 *s.*, an increase of 5 *s.*

2349. Lismahagow first class?—One variety of Lismahagow, namely, Wee coal, which I used in 1866, I bought under contract at 18 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton.

2350. What was the price in 1867?—I applied to our agent from whom we had some within the last fortnight, and he told me that the price would be now 30 *s.*, being an increase of 11 *s* 6 *d.* per ton.

2351. By the *Committee.*] That is the coal which we have been told has been put to a new use, and has had a most extraordinary rise?—I did not hear that evidence.

2352. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Do you know any particular invention as to that Lismahagow Wee coal with regard to extracting oil from it?—No; but I do not think that that would affect the price of it just now, for there is very little of it

Mr. *John Reid.*

3 June 1867.

used now. The oil trade is in such a state that it is in our favour for purchasing gas coal.

2353. Why is that?—In consequence of the small quantity that is used for the distillation of oil.

2354. By the *Committee.*] I understand you that the price of this particular cannel coal is prohibitory as far as you are concerned?—It is so at present.

2355. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Is it the American oil which has spoiled the English trade in oil extracted from this coal?—Within the last two or three years, two or three of the coals (I believe some of the Lismahagow coals) were used for distillation to produce oil; but in consequence of a great many of those oil works being at a stand still, nearly a larger quantity of these coals are now open for gas companies to purchase.

2356. Now, let us take the first, New Battle, in 1865?—There is only one variety of New Battle.

2357. That belongs to the first class?—Yes; in 1865, we bought 2,000 or 3,000 tons at 20 *s.*, for the present year, we pay 24 *s.* 6 *d.* Overton, a first-class variety, the one I have just referred to, I bought in 1862 at 23 *s.* 4 *d.*; the price quoted to me now within the last couple of months is 31 *s.* 6 *d.*

2358. It is a difference of 8 *s.* 2 *d.*?—Yes; 8 *s.* 2 *d.* difference.

2359. Let us take the second class of cannel?—The Wilsontown I bought in 1866 at 15 *s.*, the present price is 22 *s.* 3 *d.* It has gone to that price by two steps. It was during the intermediate period 19 *s.* a ton, but is now 22 *s.* 3 *d.* I am buying at that rate.

2360. There is a difference of 7 *s.* 3 *d.*?—Yes, there is a difference of 7 *s.* 3 *d.* Cleugh coal, a coal very much like that, was 15 *s.* in 1865, and it went by two steps from 19 *s.* up to 22 *s.* 3 *d.*, which is the present price offered to us.

2361. That is, 7 *s.* 7 *d.* increase?—Yes; then there is the Heywood, another class.

2362. Is that of the same character as the Cleugh?—It is very nearly the same. In 1866 we bought that at 14 *s.* 8 *d.* a ton, and it went up to 19 *s.*, and is now at 22 *s.* 3 *d.*

2363. Being an increase of 7 *s.* 7 *d.*?—Yes.

2364. Weems?—Yes, Weems is a good class, amongst the first-class varieties.

2365. It is the best Fife cannel?—Yes, Weems is a first-class gas cannel. I bought that in 1861 at 22 *s.*, and I have bought none of it since; but you cannot buy it under 27 *s.* 6 *d.*, being an increase of 5 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton.

2366. Then Methal?—That is a coal I am using a considerable quantity of. In 1865 it was 13 *s.* 6 *d.*; it is now 18 *s.* 6 *d.*, being an increase of 5 *s.*

2367. Are all those prices delivered in your works?—Yes.

2368. And are all those coals or cannels fair coals for gas, some being a great deal better than others?—Those are all fair gas cannel coals.

2369. Give us the per-centage of losses; what is the lowest per-centage of loss?—About $22\frac{1}{2}$.

2370. And the highest?—About 62 fully.

2371. I believe you have not been remiss in trying to get your coals arranged for this year?—In the early part of the year I became very anxious about our purchases for the year. We have been for several years in the habit of concluding for the whole year's supply in the month of April. I applied for this present year in the month of January, and I was not at all surprised to find that some of the coal owners on whom we relied hesitated a good deal about giving us the quantities we should require. If you will permit me I will refer to the letters.

2372. It is hardly worth while to read the letters, but you have them before you?—I have the letters in my pocket.

2373. What was the general tenor of the replies?—Here is an excerpt——

2374. By the *Committee.*] Never mind the letters, but let us know what you have done?—They stated that they could not fairly supply us with the proportions which we used to get, and that from the great demand made upon their output, there was a likelihood of decreasing——

2375. We do not want to know the likelihood, we want to know the fact; what are your prices, the prices of your contracts?—I have a letter from two parties.

2376. Have

2376. Have you made your contract?—We have.

2377. Let us know what contract you have made?—We have made for Arniston coal a contract for 25 *s.*; for New Battle, 24 *s.* 6 *d.*; for Wilsontown, 22 *s.* 3 *d.*; and for Methil, at 18 *s.* 6 *d.*; and some others I cannot give you.

2378. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] In short, you have made them at the rate you have quoted before?—Yes.

2379. By the *Committee.*] What did you say was the average of former years?—16 *s.* 3 *d.*

2380. What will be the average of this year?—I am not able to say, because we have not yet made up our yearly accounts, but I expect it will be considerably above.

2381. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Above the average of the years for which you have made the contracts which you have been telling us about?—Yes; I must add them up and divide them, to take the proportional quantities.

2382. By the *Committee.*] You had better give us that afterwards?—May I understand the question that you put?

2383. We do not want a detailed inquiry about the state of the Scotch coalfield, it is not of the smallest interest to us, except so far as it bears upon the price of gas. You told us that in the years as to which you have just been giving your evidence, the average price was 16 *s.* 3 *d.*, minus 2 *s.*, or thereabouts, for residuals?—Yes.

2384-5. What we want to know, as to the coming year that you have been examined about, is, what will be the average price, and how much we are to deduct from that for residuals, that is all we care about?—I think I might venture to say-----

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] If we could get the different qualities of coal and the price, we could easily work it out.

2386. By the *Committee.*] You can fill it in presently?—Very well.

2387. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] The Committee shall have it prepared. (To the *Witness.*) Besides the question of price, had you a difficulty in procuring from the parties you applied to the quantity you needed?—Decidedly.

2388. Has the demand for coal for gas purposes increased considerably of late years in Scotland?—Very great.

2389. To what do you attribute that?—Chiefly to its being purchased for shipment abroad, and taken away from us, for improving the illuminating power of the gas in London, and elsewhere.

2390. In your opinion, has the prescription by Parliament ordinarily, in English Bills at any rate, of an increased illuminating power, acted upon the cannel market?—Most decidedly, in advancing its price.

2391. Supposing 18-candle were to be required from the companies in London, of course that would give a great impulse to it in your opinion?—No doubt.

2392. By the *Committee.*] Have the colliers' wages increased much?—I understand they have considerably.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

2393. These applications were made in January last year?—In January last year.

2394. Is not that a very unusual period at which to make applications for coal?—No.

2395. Is that your usual practice?—Our usual practice has been in the month of April.

2396. Your usual practice having been in April, how came you to make application in January?—I made the application in January in consequence of our anxiety to make sure of our supply for the coming year; but many of the Scotch gas companies, one or two I knew, are in the habit of making their contracts fall at different periods of the year.

2397. April and May are about the usual time, I apprehend, are they not, looking at the state of the neighbourhood and the weather, and so on, for making these contracts?—Yes, very generally about April and May; I knew a very important company whose principal contracts fall at the 31st of December, and are renewed the same time as ourselves.

Mr. *John Reid.*

3 June 1867.

2398. There has been a good rise in cannel lately, has there not?—Yes.

2399. Many new pits opened?—Yes, several.

2400. There is a very large cannel field, is there not?—I am not well acquainted with that.

2401. You gave us those prices varying from 25 *s.* per ton to 18 *s.* 6 *d.* for cannel; were those different qualities of cannel?—Arniston and New Battle, which let me their contracts, are very nearly the same quality; they are the best varieties of the Mid-Lothian field.

2402. I suppose it is only the best cannel that is worth bringing to London, is it?—I should think so, or the best varieties of the second class.

2403. You would not bring cannel to London that was less than your lowest rate of illuminating power, 15 candles; you would not bring anything to London that was less than 21 candles?—I do not know, I am sure.

2404. When was it that the application was made to those different companies?—As to their prices?

2405. Yes?—Within the last eight or nine months; we got them at different periods.

2406. After the Report of the Select Committee of last year, I think?—What date was that?

2407. That would be in July or August?—The whole of those are since that time.

2408. Who made the applications?—To those gas companies?

2409. Yes?—Part of them were made by myself, as manager and engineer, and partly by our treasurer.

2410. In fact there has been, I will not say a combination, but a general arrangement to raise the prices in Scotland, has there not?—No, we have been comparing notes with each other as to the cost of coal, but there has been no combination in any way.

2411. I will not use the word "combination," but as a matter of fact there has been a general rise?—There has been a rise in the towns I have named.

2412. Since July 1866?—Yes.

2413. Many of those places have not a very large population, I think?—Dundee is a large town, and Aberdeen is a large town.

2414. Hamilton, for instance, that is not large?—No, it is not very big.

2415. Do you know what dividends those companies are paying?—No.

2416. Do you know what their capital is?—No.

2417. You know nothing about them, except as regards the prices?—I only know the prices.

2418. Do you know anything of the illuminating power?—No, not particularly.

2419. Do I understand you to say that the number of cubic feet of gas from cannel coal might be taken at 10,000?—I may say so, certainly.

2420. Of what illuminating power?—On the average of the year's work, there would be about 10,000 cubic feet.

2421. Is that 10,000 cubic feet of an average of from 25 to 27 candles?—Yes.

2422. This Parratt coal that you speak of, I believe is the best kind of cannel coal, is it not?—Cannel and Parratt are synonymous.

2423. "Parratt" is rather a new name, is it not?—No, it is the old name.

2424. This Boghead coal, is that a cannel coal?—I do not know.

2425. You do call it a coal?—Yes.

2426. Has it the properties of cannel as regards gas making?—Yes, in a very highly developed degree.

2427. It has a very high illuminating power?—Yes.

2428. There are two companies in Edinburgh, I believe?—Yes.

2429. Do they compete with each other?—Yes.

2430. There is no arrangement for districting?—Will you put that question again?

2431. First of all, do the two companies compete with each other?—Yes.

2432. Which is the old company, you or your friends?—Our friends.

2433. You are the younger?—Yes.

2434. You compete with each other; is there any arrangement between the young and the old for districting?—No special arrangement.

2435. A general understanding?—Possibly there is.

2436. You do not tread too much on other people's toes?—Possibly not; we do not like to do that.

2437. Is there any difference between the illuminating power of the gas of the two companies?—Not much.

2438. Which is the better?—Sometimes one, and sometimes the other.

2439. As a general rule, is not the old a little better than the new?—I cannot say.

2440. You will not say it is not, and you will not say it is?—I will not say anything about it.

2441. The price is the same, I suppose?—Yes.

2442. There is a good deal of variation in the level of Edinburgh, is there not?—No.

2443. Not where the gas is supplied?—There is a good deal of difference between the level of Edinburgh and Leith.

2444. Say Edinburgh?—Princes-street, in Edinburgh, is about 225 feet on the ordnance datum, and the castle is about 350; that is about the range.

2445. I suppose the difference of level does affect the quantity of leakage?—Clearly.

2446. You spoke of the unaccounted for gas?—Yes.

2447. Did you hear what was stated by a witness with reference to the unaccounted for gas in the Chartered?—I have read part of the evidence.

2448. Eighteen per cent. I think?—Yes.

2449. That is a very large quantity for London, is not it?—No, I do not think so.

2450. The levels in London, I suppose, are pretty much the same?—Yes; but there are circumstances in London which favour leakage which do not exist with us.

2451. You do not think that 18 per cent. is a large quantity of unaccounted for gas for London?—With us at present it is 15·82; it has been as high as 20.

2452. With a considerable variation in level?—With a considerable variation in level.

2453. By the *Committee.*] Suppose there should be less loss upon a higher illuminating power?—In leakage do you mean?

2454. Yes?—It is a denser gas with a higher illuminating power, and through a given aperture it flows in a less quantity than a thinner gas, but I do not think it should make much difference.

2455. Mr. *Webster.*] Can you tell us how many Scotch gas companies there are under Act of Parliament?—No, but there are several.

2456. You do not know whether they are under restrictive clauses or not, as to price and illuminating power?—I cannot speak to that.

Re-examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

2457. I believe there are only two in all Scotland, Glasgow and Dundee?—Glasgow and Dundee. I am not quite sure whether Perth is one of the companies or not.

2458. Any difference of level there is affects the leakage, but that is diminished to some extent by the greater density of the gas?—Yes.

2459. But you have not been able to get it below 16, or thereabouts?—Thereabouts.

2460. Do you know the level of Highgate in London?—No.

2461. Do you know that one of the London companies supplies Highgate?—I cannot say.

2462. You do not tread upon each others toes in Edinburgh?—No.

2463. What dividend do you make?—We paid 8 per cent. for one or two years previous to last year.

2464. What did you pay last year?—We reserved our profit, which amounted only to about 4¾, and, by consent of the shareholders, there was no dividend paid, it being anticipated that a considerable extra expenditure would be incurred from the price of coal.

2465. By the *Committee.*] Do I understand you to say that there was no dividend at all?—We had a declaration of profits.

Mr. *John Reid.*

3 June 1867.

2466. But it was not divided?—Not divided.

2467. Four and three quarters declared, but nothing divided?—Just so.

2468. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Calculated?—Calculated.

2469. It was thought more prudent to keep that in hand to meet extraordinary expenses, of which the rise in coal was one of the large elements?—Yes.

2470. What did the other company pay?—I think 10 per cent.

2471. I suppose you have a perfect understanding as to price with them?—We advertised our prices quite independently of our opponents.

2472. And they advertised independently of you; but were the prices advertised the same?—They were.

2473. Supposing that the mains of the old company are in a street in which you are not yet, I suppose you would not think it handsome to lay down a pipe there?—Not unless there were good grounds for justifying it.

2474. In other words, without what my learned friend called "districting," you practically agree to divide the business in Edinburgh between you, I suppose?—Yes; but we have our mains in Edinburgh and Leith in every street; both companies have, I believe, with very few exceptions indeed.

2475. Mr. *Webster* (through the *Committee*).] What is the mileage of the mains of the Edinburgh and Leith Company?—We had 120 miles about three years ago, or, I should think, four years ago, and I think we have added another eight since; say from 120 to 130 miles we have now.

2476. By the *Committee.*] Do you agree with the doctrine that $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a candle is a fair test of price?—I have never calculated it in that way.

2477. What is the number of candles that you supply?—Twenty-five to twenty-seven.

2478. Would it answer your purpose to go down from that $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a candle to a lower figure?—If we were to reduce our candle power, say to 15 or 16, it would be equivalent to adding greatly to the cost of our plant; it would require very largely increased works to produce the increased quantity that would be required to supply our consumers.

2479. Then you do not agree with the doctrine that, upwards or downwards, you may take it from 14 to 18 candles, at $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a candle?—I could not state as to the rate per candle; I have never gone into it in that way.

2480. Mr. *Hope Scott* (through the *Committee*).] What is your mode of purifying?—We purify by both the processes of lime purification.

2481. But all lime?—All lime.

2482. You have no standard of purity irrespective of the standard of price and illuminating power?—We have no standard.

2483. By the *Committee.*] What is the consequence to the neighbourhood of purifying with lime?—We are fortunately closely situated upon the sea shore, and we run on lime water, which is the most offensive of our products, into the tide-way by a pipe; the neighbourhood is sufficiently odorous as it is, by other establishments.

2484. Mr. *Webster.*] What becomes of the lime?—We manage to get all our lime disposed of for farming purposes.

2485. How do you carry it away; by carts?—By carts; that is, the dry lime. The wet lime, which is called "blue billy" in London, is allowed to settle in close pits, and the liquid is run off till we find the lime in a thick plastic state, and we sent it away by railway.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *John Young,* sworn; Examined by Mr. *Burke.*

Mr. *John Young.*

2486. I BELIEVE you are Engineer to the Dalkeith Gas Company?—I am.

2487. How long have you been a gas engineer?—27 years.

2488. And of that how much have you spent in the service of the Dalkeith Company?—Nearly 14 years.

2489. I believe you are the sole company supplying Dalkeith?—Yes.

2490. You have the monopoly of the supply?—Yes.

2491. What is the description of coal which you use?—Entirely cannel.

2492. What is your make per annum?—About 11,000,000 per annum.

2493. Are

2493. Are you under an Act of Parliament?—No.

2494. No Act of Parliament at all?—No.

2495. And have you no limitation as to price?—No.

2496. Nor as to illuminating power?—No.

2497. Nor as to purity?—No.

2498. Nor as to dividend?—No.

2499. You do as you like?—Yes.

2500. Do you use a variety of cannel, or all the same?—We use a variety, six or eight kinds.

2501-2. Do you find that the most advantageous and economical mode of consuming your coal?—Yes; we find that we have sometimes to use one coal for the quality of the gas, and sometimes another.

2503. What would be the average produce upon a ton of coals, upon the compound coal system?—About 1,000 cubic feet per ton.

2504. What would be your average illuminating power?—From 25 to 26 candles.

2505. Do you agree with what the last witness said about the variation of quality in these coals?—Yes.

2506. You heard him, did you?—I did.

2507. In winter you have to use, I believe, a higher and better description of coal than you have at other periods of the year?—Yes, always so.

2508. What do you estimate your leakage at per year; your unaccounted for gas?—In the year ending 1865, it was 13 per cent. odd; last year it was 15 per cent. odd.

2509. Do you attribute that to any particular cause?—No particular reason. We have no assignable cause.

2510. What do you include in the term "unaccounted for gas"?—Gas that has been lost by leakage, exhalation in the pipes, and gas that is precipitated in the pipes, in the form of oil, and stolen gas.

2511. Do you contract for your public lights?—We supply them by meter.

2512. Could you assign any particular portion of that 15 per cent. to leakage alone?—No.

2513. You could not?—No.

2514. But, from your long experience as a gas maker, does it invariably result that the amount of gas sold would be less than the manufactured gas?—Invariably so.

2515. You know of no instance in which that is not the case?—I know of none where it has ever been under 10 per cent., and I have known it as high as 33 per cent.

2516. As to your coke, do you sell much coke?—Yes.

2517. What is the average price you get for that?—We sell it, by the bushel, at 2 *d.* a bushel.

2518. How many bushels would go to a ton of coal consumed?—About 10 bushels.

2519. You get 1 *s.* 8 *d.* a ton?—Yes.

2520. Are you able to sell a large proportion of coke in proportion to the coal consumed?—We sell about half.

2521. Do you get a sale also for your other residual products, your ammoniacal liquor?—We do.

2522. What do you get for those?—£. 65.

2523. What price do you charge for gas?—5 *s.* a thousand feet.

2524. Have you been paying a very high dividend?—We have hitherto paid 10 per cent.

2525. At 5 *s.* per 1,000 feet?—Yes.

2526. Have you paid that for a long term of years?—We have paid it for the last 13 years.

2527-8. Have you found, what the previous witness has stated, that the price of cannel, of late years, has considerably increased?—Yes, these last 12 years it has been rapidly increasing in price.

Chairman.] I suppose that is not disputed; the facts that have been stated.

2529. Mr. *Burke.*] In your judgment, if these Scotch cannel coals were required

Mr. *John Young.*

3 June 1867.

required to be sold in large quantities in London, would that have an effect upon the price in Scotland?—It has already affected the price materially.

2530. Supposing that there was a compulsion put upon the London companies to sell cannel coal gas, and to compel the companies to get cannel, whether from Scotland or Lancashire, or elsewhere, would not that have the effect of raising the price in Scotland?—Yes, most undoubtedly, it would.

2531. You say that it has had that effect already?—Yes, already so.

2532. You have, I think, carried out a considerable number of tests upon various descriptions of coal?—I have; for the last 10 years I have been employed largely in analysing coal.

2533. I find in the paper that is handed to me that you have examined 200 samples?—Yes.

2534. Did many of those turn out to be absolutely useless?—A great number, when they were tested, were found useless.

2535-6. What is the average price that you have been paying for your coal?—In 1865 I paid for the Lothian coal 20 *s.* a ton at the pit.

2537. Is that the coal that Mr. Romans represents?—Yes; just now we are paying 25 *s.*

2538. At the pit?—Yes.

2539. How far have you to carry it?—About three miles.

2540. Is that a superior description of cannel; is that first-class cannel?—It is first-class cannel.

2541. Have you found the inferior class of cannel go up in price as well as the first-class cannel?—They have been all affected in price, though in different ratios.

2542. Is the ownership of the cannel coal comparatively in few hands?—

Chairman.] The Committee have determined not to go into that inquiry.

2543. Mr. *Burke.*] You know that the Edinburgh Gas Company have recently increased their rates in consequence of the price of cannel; do you know of other companies in Scotland who have done the same?—I know several that have.

2544. Has your own company increased their price?—Not yet; it is left in abeyance until the end of our present financial year, to be considered then.

2545. Have your directors taken into consideration whether it will not be absolutely necessary to increase their price in order to maintain their dividend?—They have not taken that into consideration yet.

2546. Do you know anything about the supply of coal in London?—No.

2547. You are not acquainted with the coal supplied to London, or the illuminating power of the coal supplied to London?—No.

2548. I think you have given us 10,000 cubic feet as the production of a ton of cannel coal?—Yes.

2549. Do you know anything about the quality of Newcastle coal?—There are a great variety of Newcastle coals; I have tested one of them, which yielded 10,000 feet.

2550. Where was that from?—I am mistaken; that was cannel coal.

2551. I asked whether you are acquainted with the product of the common coal?—I had two kinds of common coal for analysis, and one of them produced 10,000 cubic feet of eight-candle gas.

2552. It produced only eight-candle gas?—Yes.

2553. What was the other which you tested; what did that produce?—That was from Plashetts; that was rather over 10,000 cubic feet of 12-candle gas.

2554. Those are the only two you have examined?—Yes, the only two; those which they call soft coal.

2555. Then you are not acquainted with the Durham coal field from which London is supplied?—No, I am not.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

2556. What is the capital of your company?—£. 6,000; they have never paid a dividend upon 6,000 *l.*

2557. What do you pay dividend upon?—£. 4,500.

2558. Then you have not paid up the 1,500 *l.*?—Yes, it is paid up now, but they have never yet paid upon it.

2559. You

Mr. *John Young.*

3 June 1867.

2559. You charge 5 *s.*, I believe?—Yes.

2560. How long have you charged that price?—For the last four or five years.

2561. What is the highest price you have charged since you have been paying 10 per cent. dividend?—For some little time the lowest price was 5 *s.* 10 *d.*, and the highest 6 *s.* 6 *d.*

2562. By the *Committee.*] For how many candles?—About 25 or 26 candles.

2563. You have been asked about the Newcastle coal, do you make gas yourself from Newcastle coal?—No.

2564. You have been asked whether you could yet 10,000 cubic feet from the Newcastle coal at a certain illuminating power?—I have not been asked that.

2565. You said that there was some coal from which you got 10,000 cubic feet of gas of only eight-candle power?—There were coals sent to me for analyses upon which I reported.

2566. If you had been content with a smaller quantity of cubic feet from the same coal, would you have got a higher illuminating power?—I should say slightly increased.

2567. How much?—I should probably say two candles.

2568. That would take the power up to 10 candles?—Yes.

2569. In order to get beyond that, you must have that coal mixed with cannel?—Yes.

2570. Have you made any calculation of how much per candle would be the increased cost?—I have not.

2571. Do you subscribe to the doctrine that for $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a candle it could be done?—I can give no opinion upon that.

Re-examined by Mr. *Burke.*

2572. Was this coal that you tested seaborne or inland coal?—It was inland coal; the Plashetts was the inland coal.

2573. That could only be brought to London by railway, could it?—Yes.

2574. You are aware, probably, that the coal brought to London now is partly by railway and partly by sea, in competition with each other?—Yes.

2575. As to your 6,000 *l.* capital, has your company been long in existence?—Upwards of 40 years.

2576. Are your streets paved with stone?—Yes.

[The Witness withdrew.

[*Mr. Denison handed in some returns.*] *Vide* Appendix.

Mr. *Horatio Brothers,* sworn; Examined by Mr. *Denison.*

Mr. *H. Brothers.*

2577. You are Engineer of the Equitable Gas Company, are you not?—I am.

2578. And have been so for eight years?—Yes.

2579. Where were you before those eight years?—I was seven years at the Salford Gas Works at Manchester.

2580. Now, the Equitable Company was founded in 1830, and incorporated in 1842, was it not?—I believe it was.

2581. Up to the end of last December you had expended capital 250,400 *l.* odd?—Yes.

2582. Of that, 250,000 *l.* was spent before the Act of 1860?—Yes.

2583. The whole of it was spent before that, in fact?—Yes; the 250,000 *l.* was.

2584. That is to say, you have not increased your capital since 1860?—We have not increased our capital; do you refer to what has been laid out, or simply to the capital to be raised?

2585. How many stations have you?—One.

2586. That is at Pimlico, is it not?—Yes.

2587. Do you supply both kinds of gas?—We do.

2588. At one time you had a competition with the Chartered Gas Company, had not you?—I believe so; but that was before my time.

Mr. *H. Brothers.*

3 June 1867.

2589. You have been there eight years, so that you came after the districting was arranged?—I did.

2590. But you know about the past dividend, apparently?—Yes.

2591. From 1840 to 1842, what dividend did the Equitable pay?—They paid no dividend at all.

2592. Then again, from 1848 to 1849, the whole year they paid no dividend?—They did not.

2593. Between 1842 and 1848, what were they doing?—I have not got that.

2594. For the first 20 years, the average dividend was how much?—Under 3 per cent.

2595. Now your rates for the year 1866, and your meter rents, and other things which you received, amounted to how much?—£. 94,075 6 *s.* 8 *d.*

2596. Did that include residual products?—Yes; residual products.

2597. Your working expenses, were what?—£. 61,958 15 *s.* 8 *d.*

2598. Your net profit?—Our net profit was 33,016 *l.* 11 *s.*

2599. When did you make your last reduction in price?—At Midsummer, 1865.

2600. What did you reduce it to?—Cannel gas from 6 *s.* o 5 *s.* 6 *d.*; common gas from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.*

2601. As last year was rather a critical period, I must put another question. You had given notice the year before of your intention to do so?—We had done so.

2602. By the *Committee.*] When was it reduced?—It was reduced at Midsummer, 1865; but we gave notice at the latter end of the year 1864.

2603. Mr. *Denison.*] Have you got a paper there showing your dividends as they were going on a little before 1860?—I have.

2604. I want to see how you were going on up to 1860. We need not go into the earlier times; we will begin at 1856, just before the districting; your dividend then was 4 per cent., was not it?—Yes.

2605. In 1857 it was $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—Yes.

2606. In 1858 it was 5 per cent.?—Yes.

2607. In 1859 it was 6 per cent.?—Yes.

2608. And in 1860 it was 9 per cent.?—Yes.

2609. Then come some payments of back dividends, I suppose?—Yes.

2610. You paid a back dividend in 1861, of how much?—In 1861, $5\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

2611. In 1861 you paid a back dividend of $5\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.?—Yes; in 1862 a back dividend of $4\frac{1}{2}$; in 1863 a back dividend of 4 *l.* 9 *s.*; in 1864 a back dividend of $6\frac{3}{4}$; in 1865 of $3\frac{3}{4}$; and in 1866 none.

2612. By the *Committee.*] That is in addition to the 10 per cent.?—Yes, in addition to the 10 per cent.

2613. There is an item here of 17 *l.* 10 *s.* per cent.; what does that mean?—The return I have put in is a return put into my hands by the accountant.

2614. Mr. *Denison.*] That seems to be for one half-year, not for the whole year?—Not for the whole year.

2615. Is that the explanation of the $17\frac{1}{2}$ which appears upon that printed table, that that is for one half-year only?—Yes, for one half-year only.

2616. But for the whole year it is $13\frac{3}{4}$?—Yes, that would be so.

2617. Now in 1866, it seems, in neither half-year did you pay any back dividend?—We did not.

2618. Now, about the illuminating power, you have got up to the point of reducing the price; perhaps the best way will be to put this table on the notes, and then we can make any use of it we like?—I will hand it in. (*The Table was handed in.*)

Vide Appendix.

2619. Mr. *Denison.*] The illuminating power by the Act of 1860 we know was 12 candles; have you always, as far as you can tell, managed to give that?—We have always given more than that.

2620. And for the cannel gas, what have you given?—We have given four candles more on an average.

2621. That is to say, 24?—Yes.

2622. There is another question applying to these back dividends; although you have paid these sums I have been reading, you have not paid off all that you

you might have done under the Act?—No, upwards of 20,000*l.*; we might have paid more.

2623. Twenty-two thousands pounds I think it is exactly?—Yes.

2624. Now, the testing house, have you erected that according to the Act?—We have.

2625. And has it been put at the disposal of the examiners?—Yes.

2626. In the regular way?—Yes.

2627. Have there been any legal processes against you for a breach of the Act?—No.

2628. Or any inquiry from the Home Secretary?—No.

2629. Any action by the magistrates?—No.

2630. How many parishes have appointed an examiner?—The parish of Saint George's Hanover Square, and Saint Martin's-in-the-Fields; the Strand district did appoint one examiner, but they have discontinued him.

2631. Those three places, I believe, that have appointed examiners, there has been no complaint from?—No.

2632. Now you have got a statement of the details of the working, which we can go into if required?—Yes.

2633. Now, first, as to economy: I asked Mr. Innes the other day whether there was any way of saving money, either in distributing gas or making it, and I ask you the same question?—I answer it in this way: that I have had a considerable experience in the country, and an experience of more than six years in London, and I must say that in managing the works in London I have carried on the works as economically in London as I did in the country, and I have always been able to make a first class dividend in the country as well as here.

2634. Are you satisfied that there is no waste?—I am sure there is not.

2635. That 10 per cent. that you paid last year was only just earned?—Just earned.

2636. You had to put on all steam to earn that dividend?—Yes.

2637. Now, about the price of coals; I suppose you, like other people, have found them rising?—They have risen.

2638. I see your rise is about the same as other people's?—Yes.

2639. Do you find that there is any proportion between the residual products and the cost of coal?—There is no ratio between the two.

2640. Take one, the article called "breese," what is that?—Breese is the small coke, when the coke is riddled.

2641. Last year you got how much for it?—8 *s.* a chaldron.

2642. And this year what have you got?—We cannot sell it for 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

2643. Do you believe that anything under 4 *s.* a thousand which you now charge will enable you to pay your dividend with the present price of coal?—Not with the present price of coal.

2644. You told me a little time ago that you had given more than the number of candles required; I think you did not say how much more you gave; you gave me the cannel gas, but not the common gas?—The average on the common, according to the returns, is about 14, that is two more.

2645. I am sorry to find that you, like other gentlemen, cannot give a separate account of the cost of making cannel gas distinct from the other?—I have been anxious to do it, but, owing to the make of cannel gas being so small, merely 1-11th of the whole, it would have put us to considerable expense to do it, or I would have done it.

2646. By the *Committee.*] How many candles is it you supply to the houses; 14?—Fourteen of common gas.

2647. Mr. *Denison.*] A great many things would have to be attributed to both manufacturers; a great number of fixed charges?—Yes.

2648. And if you attempted to work out the mere cost of making the gas, you would have to make an arbitrary division of taxes and fixed charges of all kinds?—Yes, we should.

2649. You say you cannot practically do it?—We cannot practically do it.

2650. I see that tar and ammonia, and other things of both gases, flow into the same reservoir?—Yes, they do.

2651. So that they cannot be separated?—No.

2652. You engineers have some difference of opinion upon this point, which I am

Mr. *H. Brothers.*

3 June 1867.

I am going to ask you; but what is your view as to the waste of cannel gas as compared with common gas; is it greater or less?—In our case it is one per cent. greater.

2653. Mr. *Webster.*] The unaccounted for gas?—Yes.

2654. Mr. *Denison.*] How much do you put as what we call leakage, which means unaccounted for gas, upon the whole of your mains?—We vary particularly on that point; the unaccounted for really amounts to 12·8 per cent.

2655. That is close upon what the Phœnix was?—Yes; we burn about five and a-half millions upon the works and in the offices, which brings it up to 14·1 per cent.; that includes the cannel.

2656. By the *Committee.*] That is consumption, not leakage?—I mean that which is unaccounted for, not paid for.

2657. Mr. *Denison.*] We will call that 14 per cent. for a moment; that includes what you burn yourself and what actually leaks out of the pipes, and it includes the stealage, and anything else that there may be?—Yes, everything else.

2658. There is another item. I suppose that you find, like other people, that the meters do not sometimes register so much as they ought to do?—That is perfectly true, especially as to the dry meters.

2659. Are your dry meters increasing?—Yes.

2660. By the *Committee.*] Is the mistake always on one side?—Not always, but the average would be against the dry meter.

2661. Mr. *Denison.*] Looking at the machinery of the meter, I suppose it is easy for you to say what is the natural tendency of the mistake, as to whether it will register more or less gas than is used?—The wet meter when it once gets the water line perfect, so long as the meter goes on registering the quantity going through the meter, is perfect; but the dry meter, what with the slipping of the valves, and the diaphragms being flexible, increasing in size, though they register a similar quantity, they practically give more.

2662. Have you made made an estimate of the cost of supplying 18-candle gas?—I have.

2663. What do you make out that that would be?—18 candle gas 1 *s.* 2 *d.* per 1,000.

2664. That is to say, it adds 1 *s.* 2 *d.* to the present cost?—It adds 1 *s.* 2 *d.* to the present cost.

2665. Am I to compare that with 14 candles or with 12?—With 12.

2666. That is to say, an addition of six candles is equivalent to a difference of 1 *s.* 2 *d.*?—Taking it that way, there is that difference; there is a difference of six candles in whatever way you put it; one is 13 and the other is 19.

2667. The addition of six candles is worth 1 *s.* 2 *d.*?—Yes.

2668. If you were obliged to furnish 18-candle gas, and also to reduce from 4 *s.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, according to these clauses, what would be the effect upon your profits?—We should have no profits.

2669. Should you be able to pay your way?—No, I do not think we should.

2670. Of course the consumption of gas goes on increasing every year?—To a limited extent.

2671. Does it increase gradually, a less per-centage?—No, in our case it has rather increased of late years, but very little.

2672. What is your increase?—Our increase is 5 per cent.

2673. Steadily?—Steadily lately.

2674. Is that 5 per cent. upon each year, or 5 per cent. from some given period?—Five per cent. upon the previous year.

2675. That is to say, we may call it compound interest at 5 per cent.?—Yes.

2676. Do you believe, as far as you can judge, that any reduction of the price would increase the consumption in such a way as to compensate for the reduction of price?—I do not think it would.

2677. You answer that by experience and not by theory. Has the increase of last year, which was a little more than 5 per cent., at all made up for the decrease in price?—No, we have not practically found that the reduction has increased our consumption; we have got the usual increase.

2678. It lowered your dividend from 15 per cent. last year to 10 per cent.?—It did lower our profits considerably.

2679. Now

2679. Now about Dr. Letheby and his burner; you know the statement of last year, which I suppose my learned friends will read, about a burner?—Yes.

2680. First of all, you were present last year, no doubt?—I was.

2681. And I dare say addressed yourself to the evidence; had that evidence of Dr. Letheby's about the burner reference to the City only?—I think so.

2682. Is Dr. Letheby the referee for the City, and did he so describe himself as referee for the City, and not for others?—I believe he did.

2683. Was that the burner that had been used for testing your gas?—A 15-hole Argand burner for the common gas, and a batswing burner for the cannel gas.

2684. Is that the same as was used in 1860?—We had the same burner in use (the steotype burner), in 1860, as we have now.

2685. Nobody has this year accused you of decreasing your illuminating power, and you say that you have not decreased it?—Certainly not; my returns for the common gas between 1860 and 1866, show an increase of 5 per cent. in cannel, which must show an increase in the illuminating power.

2686. Now about Manchester; you were at Manchester until you came here eight years ago?—Yes.

2687. Now about Mr. Cleminshaw; you know his evidence?—Yes.

2688. He said that the loss by leakage, and of labour consequent upon that, ought to be not more than 1*s.* a thousand?—Ought to be.

2689. Yes; I believe yours *is* 1*s.* a thousand. He estimates loss by leakage and labour at the present time to be 1*s.* a thousand in Manchester; then he compares the mains in Manchester with the mains in London. When your company districted in 1857, or as soon after as could be, were all the spare mains taken up?—Yes, all the mains that we could do without, and that we could take up without inconveniencing the public.

2690. So that all that story of his about there being so many mains in the streets, is not correct as to your company?—It is not correct in the whole; we have no mains down at present in use of any company's that we have not tested before using.

2691. Of course, in a large street there ought to be two mains at any rate?—From two to three at least, and where we supply cannel gas, there must be four.

2692. That is, one cannel in the centre and one common on each side of the street?—Yes; if we take the Strand we could not do with less than one large one in the centre, and two riders on each side, and a cannel gas main.

2693. About turning on the gas, we have had some evidence about that; we know that you are obliged to keep it on at a pressure of one inch all day long; is that the case in any other town that you know of?—No, it is not the case in any other place; and we, having a very large day consumption, and having the principal portion of the theatres to light, especially during the pantomimes, we practically work with a 15-10th pressure certain hours of the day.

2694. How much do you find the loss by your unaccounted for gas amounts to per 1,000 in your common mains?—In our case I think it is about 4 *d.*

2695. And you know enough of the figures of the other companies to know whether that is about the average?—Yes, that is about the average.

2696. You were one of the five engineers who signed that estimate sent to the Board of Trade?—Yes.

2697. You have given the same evidence here in substance about the 18 candles?—Yes.

2698. There was another statement of Mr. Cleminshaw about the charge for some coke that is No. 631; it relates to the same table that I have been speaking of just now; Mr. Cleminshaw said there was a mistake about it?—The mistake is this, that we had charged more for Newcastle coke than we had made; it is against ourselves; we should have to use considerably more cannel coke.

2699. How much more?—We should have had to have double the quantity; that is for the difference; on taking 12 bushels of Newcastle coke we should have had to use 24 bushels of cannel coke.

2700. What quantity of cannel coal, and what quantity of common coal together do you use to make your cannel gas?—In making our cannel gas we use, as a base, as I may call it, Wigan cannel, and to bring up the quality we use either Boghead or Lismahagow; in addition, I practically find that I cannot

Mr. *H. Brothers.*

3 June 1867.

guarantee a supply of 20-candle gas according to the Act, with Wigan cannel alone.

2701. I suppose in that you use no Newcastle coal?—Not the least.

2702. By the *Committee.*] Where does the cannel gas go particularly to?—It is for private consumption in the south-western districts, and also the Strand.

2703. Mr. *Denison.*] That is what you do with the 20-candle gas?—Yes.

2704. Supposing you had to guarantee 18-candle gas, do you know what quantity of cannel and what quantity of Newcastle, if any, you would require?—Three-fourths Wigan cannel, and one-fourth Newcastle coal.

2705. Is that to make a supply of 18-candle gas, or to make something safely over 18-candle gas?—It is to make something that will carry us safely over that.

2706. In point of fact, that is what you give in the table which Mr. Cleminshaw is criticising. Wigan and cannel, quantity one ton, 16 *s.*, and fuel to carbonise, as above, 12 bushels at threepence, 3 *s.* You add that up, and you make the net cost of one ton of cannel 1 *l.* 1 *s.* 4 *d.*?—Yes.

2707. You know, probably, that Mr. Cleminshaw disputed your figures?—Yes; I heard him dispute those figures, and was rather astonished at the statements he made as to the quantity of Newcastle coal and Wigan cannel from which he could produce 19½-candle gas.

2708. You heard what he said upon that?—I can only say that I was on one side of the water when he was upon the other at Salford, and I know this, that we were never able to do it; and I know that our returns at the time show that we always made a greater profit than they did; and I can say this further, that during the winter season, when the cannel has been damp and small, our illuminating power from our cannel has fallen down to 18 candles.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

2709. How many tons of coal did you consume last year?—Coal and cannel we consumed 42,298 tons.

2710. Can you distinguish them into to what is called cannel and common coal?—I can do so; in the year 1866 we used 37,342 tons 19 cwt. of Newcastle coal, 4,656 tons 15 cwt. of cannels; those cannels included Lismahagow and Wigan cannels; 351 tons 13 cwt. of Boghead.

2711. Is the Boghead very much better than the other in illuminating power?—The Boghead has at least twice the illuminating power of the Wigan cannel.

2712. As regards the Lismahagow, how is that?—It is better than the Lismahagow.

2713. By how much?—I should say about 10 candles better.

2714. What do you call the power of the Boghead?—Upwards of 40 candles.

2715. And now, having used the 42,298 tons, what is the total cost?—£. 35,182. 18 *s.* 1 *d.*

2716. What was the total amount received in residual products?—£. 16,961. 19 *s.* 8 *d.*

2717. Nearly 17,000 *l.*?—Yes.

2718. About nearly half the cost of the coal?—Yes, nearly half.

2719. How much gas was made for that?—425,000,806 cubic feet.

2720. How much sold?—365,000,653 cubic feet.

2721. How much was received in respect of gas sold?—How much money do you mean?

2722. Yes?—£. 75,906. 13 *s.* 8 *d.*

2723. Does that include the residuals?—No.

2724. It is the gas sold?—Yes.

2725. My learned friend did not ask you, but perhaps you can tell me how much you require upon 30,000 feet to pay a dividend?—Upon the quantity of gas sold we require 1 *s.* 7½ *d.*

2726. Upon the gas sold that is?—Yes.

2727. There seems to be some question put advisedly about this burner of Dr. Letheby's applying to the City; I suppose what is a good burner for the City is a good burner for any other town?—For any other company supplying the same quality of gas.

2728. There

2728. There is a difference in the burner, as regards the quality of gas, is there not?—There ought to be.

2729. Are you in the habit of asking deposits to secure the gas rents?—That does not come in my department at all; I never meddle with financial matters.

2730. Do you know anything about whether interest is charged upon that, or not, occasionally?—I cannot answer that question.

2731. What is the number of miles of main?—We have upwards of 60 miles of main.

2732. What is the quantity of gas supplied per mile?—If you take 76 and 60, it is getting on to upwards of 1,500 a mile.

2733. You told my learned friend that there was no ratio between the cost of coal and the residual products; do I understand you to say, that the residual products do not increase in value as the price of coal increases?—Decidedly not.

2734. So that if coal rose very much, coke would fall?—No; I did not say so; I did not say that the reverse was true.

2735. Then, in the answer you gave, you did not mean to say that, if coal rose, coke would not rise?—I meant to say this, that it does not necessarily follow because coal rises in value that the residual products rise in value.

2736. We are not talking of residual products now, except coke. You use a very large portion of Newcastle coal; you use 37,000 tons of Newcastle coal, and 4,000 tons, in round numbers, of cannel coal?—Yes.

2737. Do you mean to tell me that, assuming Newcastle coal to rise, the coke would not rise also?—It does not do so; it has not done so this year especially.

2738. In the course of years, do you mean to say that if coal rose coke would not follow?—It does not follow.

2739. Will it get less?—It is quite a question of the price of other material.

2740. I ask about coke?—Coke depends a great deal upon the supply and the season.

2741. By the *Committee.*] When you were at Salford, what illuminating power did you supply the community with?—From 18 to 21 candles, as far as my recollection serves me.

2742. What was the price?—We reduced the price a little before I left; we set Manchester the example, and they followed it; but the price the great portion of the time I was there was 5 *s.* per 1,000 feet.

2743. When you set the example of reduction, what did you reduce to?—If my memory serves me now, about 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

2744 Four shillings and sixpence per 1,000 feet at 18 candles?—I would be occasionally a little more; it would be upwards of 18 candles.

2745. What did you make it of?—Wigan cannel.

2746. Exclusively?—Exclusively.

2747. What was the cost of it at that time?—I think at that time about 14 *s.* or 14 *s.* 6 *d.*; it had been 10 *s.* 6 *d.*

2748. When you reduced it, it was 14 *s.*?—About that price.

2749. Is there any great difference in the price of labour between what you paid then and what you pay now?—Considerably.

2750. What was the difference?—Do you refer me to the price I paid at Salford and the price I am now paying in London?

2751. I do?—It would be nearly 20 per cent., as far as I can remember.

2752. You say you cannot separate the cost of selling the cannel gas in the Strand from the ordinary gas?—We separate the selling, because we have separate mains.

2753. What you say is, that you cannot separate that which concerns us, namely, the expense to you of doing it?—We could do it as a matter of fact, but not except at very considerable expense.

2754. You cannot tell your directors whether it pays them better to furnish cannel gas or coal gas at these respective prices?—I might answer your question by rather a general answer, and that is this; that with the small quantity that we make I believe it would be better for us to supply common gas, but if we were able to make the whole quantity of cannel, I should prefer to do so at that price.

Mr. *H. Brothers*

3 June 1867.

2755. If you could sell the whole quantity of cannel gas at 20 candles, you would prefer to sell it?—Yes, at 5 *s.* 6 *d.*

2756. That is at the standard of 20 candles?—Yes.

2757. Before you began the system of districting in London, you were paying 4 per cent. dividend?—I think so; but it was before my time, and therefore I am not competent to say.

2758. Now you pay regularly 10 per cent.?—We do.

2759. And, besides that, you pay back dividends?—We have paid all the back dividends that we are entitled to; that is to say, except 22,000 *l.*

[The Witness withdrew.

Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 4th June 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Henry Finlay*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Richards.*

Mr. *H. Finlay.*

4 June 1867.

2760. YOU are a Civil Engineer, I believe?—I am.

2761. You are engineer-in-chief to the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company?—Yes.

2762. And you have been so for five or six years, have you not?—For five and a half years.

2763. Were you previously to that assistant engineer to the Commercial Gas Company for 10 years?—For nine and a half years.

2764. Are you thoroughly familiar with the manufacture of gas?—I am thoroughly familiar with the manufacture of gas, and the erection of gas machinery.

2765. The Surrey Consumers' Company was founded in the year 1849, and incorporated about the year 1854, was it not?—It was.

2766. They only supply common gas?—Only common gas; no cannel gas.

2767. You have a manufacturing station?—Yes; and two gas holder stations.

2768. The manufacturing station being at Rotherhithe, on the bank of the Thames, marked buff on the map?—Yes.

2769. That situation, I need hardly ask you, is, of course, extremely good for the delivery of coals?—Very good.

2770. Lying down the river on the bank?—Yes.

2771. Can you bring ships close alongside?—We do bring them close alongside the jetty.

2772. Without the intervention of barges?—Yes.

2773. Did you originally commence to make gas in connection with the Phœnix and South Metropolitan Companies?—Yes.

2774. Was that continued until the year 1853 or 1854?—Yes; about that.

2775. When the districting took place by agreement?—Yes.

2776. From 1849 to 1852, did you pay any dividend at all?—For three years we paid no dividend.

2777. Will you tell us when you began to pay a dividend; and will you also tell us the amount of dividend that you have paid?—The company started in the year 1849; for three years we paid no dividend; in 1852, we paid 4¼ per cent.; 1853, we paid 7 per cent.; in 1854, we paid 7 per cent.; in 1855, we paid 8 per cent.; in 1856, we paid 8 per cent.; in 1857, we paid 8 per cent.; in 1858. we paid 8 per cent.; in 1859, we paid 8 per cent.; in 1860, we paid 8 per cent.; in 1861, we paid 8 per cent.; in 1862, we paid 10 per cent.; and in 1863, we paid 10 per cent., and 4 per cent. back dividend.

2778. *Chairman.*] For how many years?—That would be for two years. In 1864, we paid 10 per cent., and 3 per cent. arrears; in 1865, we paid 10 per cent.

Mr. *H. Finlay.*

4 June 1867.

cent., and 2 per cent. arrears; and in 1866, we paid 9½ per cent., and 2 per cent. arrears. We reduced the price of gas at Midsummer last, and since we reduced the price, we have only been enabled to pay 9 per cent., and 2 per cent. was paid on the previous half year.

2779. What was the reduction at Midsummer?—6 *d.*; from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.*

2780. Mr. *Richards.*] That was done at Midsummer 1866?—Yes.

2781. Have you paid 10 per cent. from the year 1860?—I believe that it averaged 7⅞ per cent.

2782. From the commencement?—From the commencement it is 7⅞ per cent.

2783. That is from the year 1849?—That is from the year 1849.

2784. What has been your capital up to the 31st of December last?—£. 200,000., and 42,000 *l.* in bonds.

2785. I believe it is 245,643 *l.*?—Yes.

2786. How much of that is subscribed and how much borrowed capital?—There is 200,000 *l.* subscribed capital.

2787. How much of that 200,000 *l.* was expended before the passing of the Metropolis Gas Act?—I commenced in the year 1862 with the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company, and there was then 150,000 *l.* share capital and 35,000 *l.* borrowed money, and the remainder has been spent since.

2788. Take last year, 1866; what were your working expenses; first, what was your gas rental and the residual products?—That is, for the year?

2789. Yes, the year 1866?—The gross receipt was 76,553 *l.* 15 *s.* 8 *d.*

2790. That does not agree with what I have got; just look at that paper before you?—That may be a balance carried forward possibly; this is what was returned to the Home Secretary.

2791. Look at your own paper, and give the gas rental?—£.75,860. 19 *s.* 3 *d.*

2792. You mentioned another sum; that being a sum slightly increased by a balance brought forward?—Yes.

2793. During that same year what were your working expenses?—The working expenses of the company for the same period were 50,979 *l.* 0 *s.* 10 *d.*

2794. Leaving a net profit of how much?—Leaving a net profit of 24,881 *l.* 18 *s.* 5 *d.*

2795. And the dividend paid, how much per cent.?—The gas rental with incidental receipts includes the residual products. For the first half-year of 1866 we paid 2 per cent. arrears. We reduced the price of our gas at Midsummer last, and at our last half-yearly meeting there was a dividend of 9 per cent. declared.

2796. The first half-year you paid 5 per cent. for that half-year and 2 per cent. back dividend, and in the second half-year you paid 4½ per cent., making a total for the year of 11½ per cent.; that was after the reduction?—Yes.

2797. From the commencement, I presume you were under the operation of the Gas Clauses Act?—From the year 1854, the time when we obtained our Act. It was an association before.

2798. Your standard illuminating power is fixed, by the Act of 1860, at 12 candles?—Yes.

2799. Have you maintained that illuminating power?—We have always maintained something above the standard; the gas over the district has averaged about 13 candles, as tested by the local authorities.

2800. What parishes have appointed local authorities for testing gas?—St. Olaves and Rotherhithe appointed Dr. Vining; but, the gas being found equal to the standard, Rotherhithe dispensed with his services about three years since.

2801. When you quote your illuminating power, you quote what he has returned adversely to the company?—Exactly.

2802. What per-centage of cannel do you use?—In the year 1862 we used 376 tons, and 13 cwt. of Wigan, and 294 tons and 6 cwt. of Scotch cannel, 16 tons of M——, and 225 tons of Boghead. In the year 1863 we used 147 tons of Wigan, and 1,076 tons of Wigan too, that would be 1,200 tons, 125 tons of Scotch cannel, and 139 tons of old Wemyss.

2803. You used different sorts?—We have been forced to do that; we used to use Boghead, but it is too expensive.

2804. You

2804. You cannot use it for that reason?—No.

2805. Will you give us the per-centage on the Newcastle coal that you used?—About 5 per cent.

2806. Is that Scotch cannel and Boghead?—Yes, I should say so; Scotch cannel, Boghead, Wigan, and all cannel together.

2807. It is not confined to Wigan?—No; we cannot get rid of the coke; we give it away, we cannot sell it, and we have to pay for carting it away.

2808. Which coke is that?—The Scotch cannel coke; we pay for carting it away sometimes. The other cannel coke I use as much as I can in the works under the boilers, and for our jetty for lifting coals.

2809. But you had practically no sale for it?—None.

2810. Have you gone into the question of the cost of your gas?—Yes; the cost of our gas per 1,000 feet is 29·94.

2811. Does that include everything?—Yes; that includes everything but the dividend; the bonds are not included.

2812. Is that gas made or sold?—Gas sold.

2813. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say that that includes all the working expenses and the materials, but not interest on the bonds or dividends on the shares?—Quite so.

2814. Is that calculated on the gas made or the gas sold?—On the gas sold.

2815. Mr. *Richards.*] The gas up to the consumers' meters?—Exactlly.

2816. What do you put the leakage at?—16¾ per cent.

2817. That is to say, unaccounted for gas?—Yes.

2818. What do you require per 1,000 to pay the interest and your charges?—We require about 16 *d.* and one-third of a penny to pay our dividend, and 1¾ *d.* to pay the bonds on every 1,000 feet of gas made, is 16·33, and 1·73 on the bonds.

2819. *Chairman.*] You mean in order to pay the 10 per cent?—Yes, we require about 1 *s.* 6 *d.* as near as possible.

2820. Mr. *Richards.*] That is to say to pay your charges and the interest?—Yes.

2821. Adding those together it makes 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, the 2 *s.* 6 *d.* making 4 *s.*?—As near as possible.

2822. Now, have you put by any reserved fund?—None whatever, we never had any reserved fund to put by.

2823. It seems that at the time you made a reduction from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.*, you were under no legal compulsion to do so?—None whatever.

2824. Before you put by your reserved fund under the Act of 1847, you are expressly permitted to pay your back dividends, are you not?—Yes.

2825. What do you put down as the expenses of management per 1,000 cubic feet. My learned friend will very likely ask you how many directors you have, and what you pay them?—The directors' and auditors' fees and salaries to officers is 2·17. That would not include my salary, because my salary goes under the head of supervison of labour.

2826. The companies necessarily do divide many of those items differently?—Yes.

2827. Now what do you put down as the natural production of a ton of Newcastle coal?—9,500 feet.

2828. What is the quality of the gas produced?—It depends on the description of coal, 12 to 13 candles.

2829. When you hear of 10,000 feet of 15 candle gas, is that within your experience?—No; if you attempted to do it you would do it at a great loss.

2830. You could perhaps do it from the choicest coal, but it is out of the question practically?—It would need to be very choice indeed, I should say.

2831. Now with regard to the burner that has been employed, when you talk of producing 13 candle gas, are you speaking of any special favourable burner, or the burner which was in existence before the year 1860 as well as since the year 1860?—Any burner that was in existence before the year 1860, as well as since the year 1860.

2832. There were burners in existence, and still are in existence, which may be used for deteriorating the quality of the gas?—Yes; they wire-draw the gas.

2833. Two burners may be apparently alike, and one would produce 13

Mr. *H. Finlay.*

4 June 1867.

candles and the other 15 candles, would it not?—Yes; I could give you instances of that.

2834. Now Mr. Clemenshaw speaks of the loss by leakage, and the loss in distribution; what do you say is the leakage and loss in distribution in the districts supplied by you; do you believe that there is any waste of capital in your distribution, or that you could improve it, looking at the position of your works and the district to be supplied?—During the last five years I have examined nearly all the mains; wherever there has been a defect in a main taken from other companies, I have taken it up and relaid it; I think there is very little defect.

2835. Have you any duplicate mains lying charged with gas but doing no duty?—No, nothing; that is simply nonsense.

2836. Did you ever hear of such a thing in London?—It is nonsense; the companies would not charge mains that were of no use.

2837. You told us that your unaccounted for gas was 16·33?—Yes.

2838. Will you tell us how much you can fairly put down to leakage proper, and how much to gas burnt on the premises, and various other things?—That is a very difficult question, but I should not say that there is more than 5 or 6 per cent. of loss from the main pipes. Ours is a very poorly populated district, with small houses, and of course our leakage would be larger than some companies.

2839. Is not a very large item in unaccounted for gas the gas lost by condensation?—Yes.

2840. The gas goes into the gasometer under a hot sun, and is then passed through the meter after passing through the cold pipes at night?—Yes.

2841. *Chairman.*] Then, comparing your district with the Manchester district, is there any reason, and, if so, what reason, why there should be more loss by condensation in your district than there is at Manchester?—I do not know the mileage of main in Manchester, but ours is a very poor district; we have rather a large mileage, and it is a very poor district indeed; for instance, the Deptford authorities gave us an order to lay on 20 or 30 lamps the winter before last, and every lamp cost us 20 *l.* for the main, and there was no other consumption.

2842. Do I understand you to say that, if there be any reason why in the metropolis a larger amount of leakage should be allowed than in Manchester, it is limited to those parts of the metropolis where the population is very thin?—I think it should be.

2843. Mr. *Richards.*] That is to say, with regard to condensation?—Yes.

2844. The leakage through the pipes would vary according to the length of mains, of course?—Yes.

2845. And also from the traffic over the mains?—Yes; some districts are very much worse than others where the disturbing causes are greater.

2846. *Chairman.*] How many miles of main have you?—About 60 miles; we average about 1,000 *l.* a mile.

2847. Mr. *Richards.*] What is your annual production; you may give it us on the biggest day, and multiply it by 200?—The total make is about 1,800,000 cubic feet in 24 hours, in mid-winter.

2848. *Chairman.*] What is the total make for the year?—It is 353,473,000; that is our total make of gas.

2849. Mr. *Richards.*] With regard to the supply of public lamps, that was an occasion when the authorities of Deptford called on you to supply the public lamps?—Yes; it happens in the Bermondsey district also.

2850. You were forced to do it under the Act of 1860, were you not?—I am not quite sure that we were forced to do it under the Act of 1860, but we did it.

2851. If the parish authorities agree to put up lamps at every 75 yards, they may take you where they like in the district?—Yes; some of them were further apart than 75 yards.

2852. Do you believe it possible for the London companies to supply 18 candle gas at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, and live?—No; I should think that they would starve at that, they could not do it at all; it would be a decided loss in my opinion.

2853. They

2853. They would starve so fast that they would die?—I should say so.

2854. *Chairman.*] How many tons of coal did you use to make the 353,473,000 feet?—37,207 tons.

2855. Of which 5 per cent. was cannel?—Yes.

Mr. *Richards.*] Scotch and mixed cannel.

2856. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Was that the whole consumption of coal?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

2857. Do I understand you to say that your company is more disadvantageously placed than some of the other London companies with regard to the distribution of the supply?—It would be more disadvantageously placed than the City companies for instance, and some other companies.

2858. Can you give me any information upon what items the increase would be?—I should think that the City companies ought to distribute gas more advantageously than some of the outside companies.

2859 And may I say at a less price?—Their leakage ought to be less.

2860. And what else?—The cost of manufacture would be about the same.

2861. What is your disadvantage then except the one point, namely, the distribution of mains?—For every 100 *l.* that our rental is increased we have a very large outlay of capital in the mains.

2862. In that respect are you working at a greater disadvantage than the City companies?—Yes; than some of the other companies.

2863. With all those disadvantages, you have been paying we see a very considerable dividend?—Yes.

2864. Could you say what the average dividend is that you have been paying since the year 1860; you are aware that it is something like 11½ per cent.?—If you have calculated it so, it is quite right.

2865. Up to the year 1862 you had to pay a certain Mr. Crowle something for an interest that he had in the gas works?—Up to 1862; his lease was out in 1862; I believe the arrangement was that they took the tools and utensils.

2866. Does the payment to Mr. Crowle appear in the accounts?—Yes; I think you will find it in this way; it was paid off at the rate of 1,600 *l.* per annum, and you will see it in the balance sheets at the rate of 800 *l.* per every half year.

2867. What is the value of your shares in the market now?—About 12 *l.* I think.

2868. What are the shares?—£. 10 paid; they are at 2 *l.* premium I think.

2869. Mr. *Hardy.*] Do you lose much by bad debts in your poor district?—No, not much; I think it is rather under some of the other companies.

2870. Mr. *Rodwell.*] Taking the accounts of 1865, I see that the money you had to appropriate for dividend is very nearly the same in 1866 and 1865; it is 25,000 *l.* in one case, and 24,000 *l.* something in the other case; it was 24,035 *l.* in the year 1865 for the shareholders' profit?—Yes.

2871. In 1866 you give 24,881 *l.*, which is very nearly the same?—Yes.

2872. When did you reduce the price of your gas from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.*?—At Midsummer last.

2873. How long had you been charging 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—We charged 4 *s.* 6 *d.* at the time I began in 1862.

2874. You have continuously, up to June 1866, been charging 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Yes.

2875. You have lately only been paying 9 per cent. dividend?—Yes.

2876. What is the difference in the quantity of gas supplied in June 1866 as compared with any previous half year?—Our increase for the year 1864 was at the rate of 8 per cent.; in 1865 it was about 8 per cent.; and in 1866, after we reduced our price, it has only increased at the rate of 6 per cent.; it has not increased so much as before.

2877. Can you account for that?—No, I cannot; certainly the reduction in price has not induced the consumers to burn more gas, it is rather less.

2878. Do you know from your experience of other companies, if, when the gas

Mr. *H. Finlay.*

4 June 1867.

is reduced there are more consumers?—I heard the engineer of the Equitable say so yesterday; but I am sorry to say that my own company's increase has been less since we reduced the price.

2879. I understood you to say that the cost of production of the gas must be 2 *s.* 6 *d.*?—I gave you the figures 29·94 *d.*

2880. And you want 1 *s.* 6 *d.* to make up the dividend?—Yes; and to pay the bonds as well.

2881. Now, in your account of the expenditure, I want to know what is included under the item "supervision and labour?"—"Supervision and labour" includes the whole of the working expenses of our yard—the workmen's wages, my salary, and the inspector's salary.

2882. Does that include the cost of labour in taking up the mains and those matters, and repairing the pipes?—It includes repairs; but it would not include the expense of laying down new mains, attending to escapes of gas, and such like matters that would be included.

2883. Has there been any increase in your expenses between 1864 and 1866?—Yes, a large increase in wages; our wages have increased about 10 per cent.

2884. Would that appear by your accounts?—Yes.

2885. Then what is your item "Supervision and labour" in 1866. I have got it for the year 1865; but I want to compare the accounts for the two years?—The "supervision and labour" in 1866, is 5,190 *l.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.*

2886. That is per ton of coal?—No, per 1,000 feet. I am referring to the balance sheet. The total cost for the half year, from Midsummer to Christmas.

2887. Where can I find the corresponding figures in the accounts of 1865?—In the balance sheet.

2888. I find it here, 1865?—Yes, 1865; it is 4,829 *l.* 3*s.* 8 *d.*

2889. *Chairman.*] What you want to know is, whether there has been any very great increase. Take the last half year of 1864, and the last half year of 1866; that will answer your purpose. (To the *Witness.*) You say that it was 4,829 *l.* 3 *s.* 8 *d.* for one half year?—Yes.

2890. What was that half year?—That was 1865.

2891. The last half year of 1865?—Yes.

2892. Was the 5,190 *l.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.* the last half of the year 1866?—Yes; it is a comparison of the two half years.

2893. Could you give us the whole year?—Yes; but it would detain you, I am afraid.

2894. Mr. *Rodwell.*] You gave my learned friend the quantity of the gas made?—Yes.

2895. But what is the quantity of the gas sold?—The quantity of the gas made is 353,473,000 cubic feet, and the quantity of gas sold is 294,332,000 cubic feet; being a loss of 59,141 cubic feet.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

2896. One half year, that is to say, in 1866, the cost of "supervision and labour" was 5,190 *l.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.*?—Yes.

2897. And in the previous half year it was 4,829 *l.* 3 *s.* 8 *d.*?—Yes.

2898. Have you found that there has been a rise in the rate of labour during that period?—Yes.

2899. And also that as you extend your works it becomes necessary to employ more people?—Yes.

2900. Then year by year you find the item "supervision and labour" somewhat increasing?—It must necessarily do so.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] That is distributed over the quantity of gas sold.

2901. *Chairman.*] There is a certain increase in the quantity of gas made each year, and then we are told what the actual sums paid for labour were in the two half years?—Yes.

2902. You naturally expect an increase in the amount, you say?—Yes.

2903. Mr. *Richards.*] Are not those two sums that you gave us the very test, that you have an increase in the price of labour?—My directors every half year go very carefully through that, and make comparisons.

2904. You

2904. You stated that there was an increase of 10 per cent.; how do you show that upon the rate of wages?—The stokers' wages we raised from 2 *s.* 6 *d.* to 3 *s.*, and all the yard men we raised at the rate of 10 per cent.

2905. Have you had any recent application from the stokers for a rise of wages, or for the diminution of the hours of work from ten to eight hours?—

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I object to the question.

Chairman.] We do not want more detail then is necessary, otherwise the inquiry may go on for ever.

Mr. *Richards.*] I will not press the question if you think it undesirable.

2906. Mr. *Goldney.*] Would not the want of employment during the past year in your district have something to do with checking the quantity of consumption?—No; there is no want of employment in our district; we adjoin the Surrey and Commercial Docks, and when the men leave our establishment they can go there and get work.

2907. *Chairman.*] You use about 5 per cent. of cannel?—Yes.

2908. You give for that 12 candle gas?—We give about 13 candle gas over the district; we make our gas at the works 14 candles or 14½ candles.

2909. Have you ever calculated what it would cost you additional to give 14 candle gas throughout the district?—I think about 3 *d.* a candle.

2910. What would it be for 15 candles?—At the rate of 3 *d.* or 2¾ *d.* a candle.

2911. To raise it from 13 candles upwards, you think would cost something like 2¾ *d.* a candle?—Yes; quite that.

2912. How far would you carry that; would you carry it up to 18 candles, for instance?—Yes; 18 or 20 candles.

2913. Would you go beyond that?—I have never gone into the question, so I cannot say.

2914. But all the way from 13 candles to as much as has been talked of for the purposes of this Bill, you estimate that it would cost about that?—It would cost 3 *d.* per candle, or 2¾ *d.*

2915. You spoke of the situation of your establishment; in some respects you think it unfavourable?—The district is poor, but the situation of the works is rather favourable, being on the banks of the river.

2916. If you were going to take the most favourable circumstances for the metropolis altogether, would you place the works on a situation something like your own?—If I were going to select a site, I should go rather further down the river.

2917. Where would you put the site?—I think about North Woolwich would be a very good site.

2918. You would carry a long main into the crowded parts of the metropolis?—Yes.

2919. And then supply those crowded parts from that main?—Yes.

2920. Have you ever calculated, if you were to do something of that sort, what price you could produce gas for?—Not very accurately; it would depend very much on the quantity made and the magnitude of the company.

2921. Suppose that it was a very great company, and produced a large quantity of gas?—If you were to have a fusion of the London companies, you would do away with expense to some extent; it would to some extent affect the price of gas, but not very largely.

2922. Can you carry your answer a little further, and assist us by any detail?—I have not gone into it, and considered the question.

2923. When you made your districting arrangements, did you compare notes, the one company with the other, with regard to the relative advantages of the companies?—No; I was in the Commercial Company at that time. We never had any opposition there; the districting took place on the south of London before my connection with the Surrey Consumers' Company; I succeeded Mr. Crowle.

2924. But if a new company had been admitted to start, and had made large works where that red place is on the map, and had carried its main into the heart of the City, and had supplied there a large and crowded district, can you tell us at what price they could have furnished the consumers with gas?—No

Mr. *H. Finlay.*

4 June 1867.

doubt they could have done it at a cheaper price than it is now, but I cannot pretend to say.

2925. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Is your capital fully paid up?—No; we have power to call up 40,000 *l.* more.

2926. How much have you raised by loan?—£.42,000. We made a call on the 1st of January last of 10,000 *l.*, which makes our present capital 210,000 *l.* and 42,000 *l.* loan.

2927. At 5 per cent.?—Yes; but we cannot get the bonds off, though we have advertised them.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Harry Chubb,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

2928. You are Secretary of the Imperial Gas Company?—I am.

2929. And have been so for four years past?—Yes.

2930. What is the date of the establishment of the company?—The company was established in the year 1821.

2931. It being the second company that was established in London?—Yes; I think it followed the Chartered Gas Company.

2932. Mr. *Richards.*] The City of London Gas Company was the second I think?—Yes; the City of London Gas Company was the second company established, and we were the third.

2933. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] What was the district originally assigned to the company?—Originally it extended to Chelsea, now occupied by the London and the Western Gas Companies; it had the Commercial and that which is marked "Independent" on the map, and it extended northward as far as Tottenham, including all Hornsey; there was no boundary on the north, in fact; the mains ran as far as Edmonton.

2934. *Chairman.*] Had you any statutory limit at all?—There was a limit in the original Act, but northward there was none; on the south it was bounded by other companies.

2935. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You had competition in the district at an early date, had you not?—Yes.

2936. What was that competition?—The Commercial Company, then called the British, the Independent, the London, and the Western; the London Company competed with us in the parish of St. Pancras, in Bloomsbury, and in the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn.

2937. What was the period of the greatest competition?—The period of the greatest competition was immediately before the year 1857.

2938. In that year the companies agreed to divide their districts, did they not?—They did so.

2939. Your company was in a condition to supply the whole district under the Act of Parliament, but not bound to supply the whole district; they could withdraw at any moment?—That was so.

2940. It was practically, then, by your withdrawal, leaving the smaller companies in possession, that the division was effected?—It was.

2941. Upon the division of the districts in the year 1867, was there a complete revision of the distribution apparatus of the different companies?—Yes, it commenced immediately upon the districting in the year 1857, and it has been continued up to a period when it is considered complete.

2942. In your opinion, and as you learn as an officer of the company, do you admit that there is a single duplicate main in your district?—No; there is not a single duplicate main in our district charged with gas. In one or two cases the original mains of the London Company have been left in, but they were not worth taking out.

2943. They are completely severed from any supply of gas into them?—They are entirely severed from all connection with the mains in which the gas is distributed.

2944. It is a great inconvenience to open the streets, besides being an expense to the companies, but when the streets are being repaved, or any work being done, you have taken advantage of that opportunity to take up anything that you did not want in the ground?—Yes; we wait until the parish give us notice that they are about to repave the street, and we take the opportunity to take out

out any superfluous pipes, and to re-arrange our own pipes in case of need. But there have been great opportunities of doing this in the Imperial Gas Company's district, especially when the Metropolitan Railway was made throughout the New Road and the Euston Road, the company took up every superfluous main that they had, and the thing was thoroughly and completely done.

2945. Of this you are sure, that no main either useless or duplicate, remains in the ground to which gas has access from your works, at present?—I feel sure of it. We have a map on which every main that exists in our district is laid down clearly and accurately; therefore it is under my own observation that the present system is complete, and in no way are there duplicate mains remaining to be removed that may be considered superfluous.

2946. What is your present capital, share and loan distinguished?—The amount actually raised at present is 1,385,250 *l.* in share capital.

2947. That is of various classes, I presume?—That is to the 31st December last; that is the total; it consists for the most part of 50 *l.* shares.

2948. Take the whole of the loan capital, what is the total?—At present it is 429,500 *l.*

2949 Now, will you distinguish in your capital that portion of it which bears one rate of interest, and those portions which bear another rate of interest?—I do not know that I can do that offhand. It is a very small amount that consists of capital bearing a limit of 7 per cent.

2950. That is your capital in 1865, is it?—Yes; the shares were only issued, or attempted to be issued, late in last year, and there has been only one call due on them.

2951. How much of your capital which you have power to raise under the Act of Parliament, bears 10 per cent. interest?—£. 1,300,000 bears 10 per cent.

2952 *Chairman.*] What you gave us before as share capital, did not include the loan?—No; I see that 85,250 *l.* is the amount at 7 per cent.; the question of the Right Honourable Chairman has put me in the way of doing that.

2953. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] That 85,250 *l.* is a portion of the 325,000 *l.* which you were authorised last year to raise at 7 per cent.?—Yes; 325,000 *l.* exactly.

2954. And of that it appears that 85,250 *l.* alone has been raised?—That is so.

2955. Have you endeavoured to issue a larger quantity of shares than are represented by this paid up amount?—We have.

2956. Have you found great difficulty in floating them?—We have not succeeded in floating those shares.

2957. Being 7 per cent. shares?—Yes.

2958. *Chairman.*] Are they preference shares?—To a limited extent they are made so; in this way, the 7 per cent. shares are to receive 7 per cent. so long as the 10 per cent. shares do not pay a less dividend than 7 per cent.

2959. Mr. *Goldney.*] Do they range *pari passu* with the 10 per cent. as to dividend?—No.

2960. They are ranged equal up to 7 per cent., and the 10 per cent. shares get the 3 per cent. afterwards?—Yes.

2961. Are the old stock to receive 7 per cent. before the new ones receive anything?—No.

2962. They all range *pari passu* up to 7 per cent.?—Yes.

2963. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Still, with that advantage, you have not been able to float your shares?—No.

2964. Those which have been taken have been principally taken by the shareholders and the directors of the company, I suppose?—They have; the directors of the company are very large shareholders, and they have felt bound in the interests of the company to accept all their allotments, but notwithstanding that the shares have not gone off.

2965. What are they quoted at in the market?—They are selling at 10 *s.* discount; they are 12 *l.* 10 *s.* shares, and 3 *l.* paid on them.

2966. Mr. *Peel.*] Are the old shares all paid up?—Yes.

2967. Then those are liable to heavy calls?—They are liable to calls; there is the first deposit of 3 *l.* upon them out of 12 *l.* 10 *s.*

2968. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Now to begin early with your dividends, you have a table there, I believe, showing the amount of your dividends ever since the year 1824?—In the year 1824, we paid 2 per cent.

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

4 June 1867.

2969. From the year 1825 to 1841 what did you pay?—From 1825 to 1841, we paid 5 per cent., both years inclusive.

2970. What was it from 1842 to 1844 inclusive?—8 per cent.

2971. What is it from 1845 to 1853 inclusive?—9 per cent.

2972. What was it from 1854 to 1866 inclusive?—10 per cent.

2973. You had reached 9 per cent. in the year 1845, and even three years before the districting, you had reached 10 per cent., had you not?—That was so; the districting took place in the year 1857.

2974. What is your average rate on those figures from the year 1821, downwards?

2975. *Chairman.*] Your districting began in the year 1857?—Yes; that was between the companies themselves. From the year 1821 downwards, taking the first three years as paying no dividend, we averaged just under 8 per cent.

2976. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Which was the first Act of Parliament of your company which limited the price for gas, which prescribed the illuminating power, and limited the dividend?—The Act of 1854.

2977. What were the several conditions of that Act in those particulars?—It limited our dividend, by incorporating the Gas Works Clauses Act with it, to 10 per cent., and it prescribed a minimum illuminating power of 12 wax candles.

2978. Will you turn that into sperm candles in the usual way?—That is 10 sperm candles; and it prescribed 6 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet as the maximum price.

2979. Were you then making only coal gas?—We were then only making coal gas with a per-centage of cannel.

2980. *Chairman.*] At that illuminating power which you have spoken of?—Yes.

2981. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] What prices were being charged by the Imperial Company from the year 1826 downwards?—We commenced before the meters were in existence, and therefore we must go to a year or two later.

2982. Payment was made by burner at that time, was it not?—Yes, by burner; but immediately the meters came into existence, the price was 15 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

2983. That was in the year 1826?—Yes. In 1830 the price was 13 *s.* 6 *d.*; in 1833 the price was reduced to 12 *s.*; in 1834 it was reduced to 10 *s.*; in 1837 it was reduced to 9 *s.*; in 1843 it was reduced to 8 *s.*; in 1845 it was reduced to 7 *s.*; in 1848 it was reduced to 6 *s.*; in 1851 it was reduced to 5 *s.*; in 1852 it was reduced to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*; and then on the 1st of July 1865, it was reduced to 4 *s.*

2984. What has been the effect of the reduction in price from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.* as regards your money receipts applicable to dividend?—The result of the year 1866, the first entire year that we have worked at a reduced price, is, that we have been unable to pay our statutory dividends by 7,900 *l.* in round numbers.

2985. *Chairman.*] That is to say, to pay 10 per cent. on 1,300,000 *l.*, and 7 per cent. on the 85,000 *l.*?—Yes; but that 7 per cent. scarcely comes in; it was only a few days on the 7 per cent., because the call did not become due till the 1st of December, and therefore it was 10 per cent. on the 1,300,000 *l.*

2986. You told us that the Act of 1854, which first limited your power, gave only 10 candles, but since the Act of 1860, of course you have been higher?—We raised it two candles.

2987. Since the year 1860 you have been giving what?—We have been giving 12 candle gas as the minimum.

2988. You have given more than 12 candles?—Yes; in fact we have worked higher than 12 sperm candle gas. During the past year, for instance, the year 1866, the average as taken by the testing officer of Marylebone, makes the highest 15·87 candles, and the lowest 13·57 candles.

2989. That is sperm candles, of course?—Yes. In the parish of St. Pancras the maximum is 15·06, and the minimum is 12·97, or 13 candles.

2990. You manufacture this gas exclusively from Newcastle coal, I believe?—No; we have used nearly 10 per cent. of cannel.

2991. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Now, what is your average rate of interest on the 429,500*l.* borrowed capital?—It works out to nearly 4¾ per cent.; a little over that.

2992. About

2992. About what are called share holders' debentures in your accounts, a point seems to be made that some capital issued at 5 per cent., that is to say, authorised to be issued at 5 per cent. by Parliament, was in fact issued at 10 per cent. by the company; will you explain that?—I ought first to explain that, when I answered that the average rate of interest was $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., I excluded from the total of 429,500 *l.* 130,000 *l.*; the 130,000 *l.* consists of 10 per cent bonds. In the year 1854, when the company——

2993. *Chairman.*] What is that a portion of?—It forms a portion of the 429,500 *l.*

2994. This 130,000 *l.* forms a portion of the 429,500 *l.*?—Yes. When the company came to Parliament, in the year 1854, they showed that 329,000 *l.* must have been expended, from time to time, out of the profits, for capital, in lieu of raising capital; and they were then authorised to appropriate 13,000 *l.* a year as interest upon that capital, and to capitalise it in such a way as they might think fit, either as share capital or borrowed capital, as forming part of the authorised share capital on the borrowed debt. It was ultimately decided to issue bonds to the extent of 130,000 *l.*, and to pay that 13,000 *l.* a year on those bonds; and that was the course taken in 1854.

2995. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] In fact the interest was fixed at so much money per annum, and the application of that money was left to the company, whether they allowed 10 per cent. or any other proportion?—Yes.

2996. You have there a security against the bond holder calling in his money, I suppose?—Yes.

2997. You cannot make them irredeemable; it is the per-centage which gives you the security that they will not call them up?—Just so; they are not redeemable by the company; but the holder may sell them.

2998. *Chairman.*] The holder may sell them; but the company is not bound to pay the capital off?—They may come upon the company for the money. They are redeemable by the holder, and he can call upon the company to pay him the 100 *l.*

2999. I understood you to say that that was not so?—No; I mean to say that the company have no power to redeem them; but the holders can.

3000. The company cannot require the creditor to receive them; but the creditor can require the company to pay; is that it?—Yes.

3001. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Now, with regard to the quantity of gas supplied by your company, what is it in all?—During the last year the company supplied 2,838,701,000 feet; that is, delivered from their works.

3002. Mr. *Peel.*] Gas made?—Yes.

3003. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] At what do you put your unaccounted-for gas?—Just over 16 per cent.

3004. Is that including what is used at the works?—Yes; all unaccounted-for gas.

3005. Your make is something like one-fourth of the entire make of the metropolis, is it not?—It rather exceeds one-fourth of the entire make of the metropolis.

3006. How many separate houses does the Imperial Company supply?—It exceeds 60,000.

3007. How many lights do you light at night; can you tell us that?—I do not think that I have got that information.

3008. What is your gross receipt from all sources?—During last year it was 587,074 *l.*

3009. Now, will you distinguish the items of that gross receipt?—The residual products were 99,984 *l.*; rental of meters 8,671 *l.*; sale of old material, 1,123 *l.*; miscellaneous receipts, 358 *l*

3010. *Chairman.*] What was the gas rental?—£.477,037.

3011. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Now your gross expenditure was what?—432,262 *l.*

3012. *Chairman.*] What is the profit?—The difference is 154,812 *l.*

3013. That is the profit for the year?—That is the profit for the year.

On the Witness consulting with Counsel and the Accountant upon the tables to which he had been referring,

Mr. *O'Malley* at first objected, but afterwards withdrew his objection.

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

4 June 1867.

Witness.] It was only the peculiar form in which the questions were put that made me pause.

3014. *Chairman.*] Do you or not think that you have given accurately the total receipts as being 587,074 *l.*, and the total expenditure 432,262 *l.* ?—I believe that is so.

3015. Leaving a balance of profit of 154,812 *l.* ?—Yes.

3016. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Now, will you give me on the other side all the principal items of your expenditure ?

The Witness consulted the Accountant upon the tables to which he had been referring.

Mr. *Richards.*] The witness has unfortunately dropped a sheet of paper on which he had his calculations.

Witness.] Now I will start afresh, and give the details of the expenditure of the company; I will begin with the gas rental.

3017. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] This is a paper headed "Imperial Gas Company Analysis of Parliamentary Accounts for 1866 ?"—Yes.

3018. That is the account sent to the Government under the Act of 1860, is it not ?—Yes.

3019. Cost of coals 246,560 *l.* ?—Yes.

3020. Less products, 99,884 *l.* ?—Yes.

3021. The difference being 146,676 *l.* ?—Yes.

3022. Management, 21,308 *l.* ?—Yes.

3023. Manufacture, 369,291 *l.* ?—Yes.

3024. Less coals, 246,560 *l.* ?—Yes.

3025. The difference being 122,731 *l.* ?—Yes.

3026. Distribution, 33,120 *l.* ?—Yes.

3027. Law and Parliamentary charges, 1,834 *l.* ?—Yes.

3028. Bad debts, 3,263 *l.* ?—Yes.

3029. Making the total of those items which comprise all the expenses, except the cost of coal, which has been deducted under the item of manufacture, 182,256*l.* ?—Yes.

3030. That added to the cost of coal less the products, which item is 146,676 *l.*, gives 328,932 *l.* as the total expenses of the year ?—That is so.

3031. Now, you have in this table also given further particulars in the columns opposite those items of expense, and I find opposite coal and other items the proportion per 1,000 cubic feet of gas sold which is due on each particular ?—Yes.

3032. The cost of coal works out to 2 *s.* · 86 *d.* or 24 · 86 *d.* ?—That is so.

3033. That is the cost of coal ?—Yes.

3034. Then the products 10·07 *d.* ?—Yes.

3035. Leaving 14·79 *d.* as the net result of the cost of coal after deducting the residual products ?—That is so.

3036. Now the management works out to 2·15 *d.* does it not ?—It does.

3037. The manufacture works out to 12·37 *d.* ?—Yes.

3038. The distribution works out to 3·34 *d.* ?—Yes.

3039. The law and Parliamentary charges work out to ·19 of a penny ?—Yes.

3040. The bad debts work out to ·33 of a penny ?—Yes.

3041. And those items summed up amount to 18·38 *d.* ?—That is so.

3042. That works out to 33·17 *d.* ?—Yes.

3043. Now to go to the receipts; the gas rental is 477,037 *l.* ?—Yes.

3044. Meter rental 3,600 *l.* ?—Yes.

3045. Less repairs and old metal 1,124 *l.* ?—Yes.

3046. Interest 359 *l.* ?—Yes.

3047. Making together 5,083 *l.* ?—Yes.

3048. Then those worked out by fractions, as follows: gas rental working out to 48*d.*·09 ?—Yes.

3049. Miscellaneous items amount to ·5 of a penny per 1,000 ?—Yes.

3050. Total receipts 482,119 *l.* ?—Yes.

3051. Total expenses 328,932 *l.* ?—Yes.

3052. Profit

3052. Profit 153,187 *l.*?—Yes.

3053. The profit works out to 15·42 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet?—Yes.

3054. The interest on the borrowed money works out at 2·8 *d.* on the 1,000 cubic feet?—Yes.

3055. The total of those charges being 30,637 *l.* (*pausing*)—I am afraid that there is something wrong here—

Chairman.] Would it not be better that all this should be put right by the beginning of to-morrow's sitting.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Yes; we will have the table put in correctly.

3056 (To the *Witness.*) The profit works out here to 15·42 *d.*, I believe?—Yes.

3057. Is that the amount necessary to pay your interest and your dividend?—It is not sufficient to pay the interest and the dividend.

3058. Now what is the figure which would be necessary per 1,000 cubic feet, to pay the interest and the dividend?—16·2 *d.*, the interest and the dividend.

3059. There is one thing more; what difference in your gas rental would 6*d.* make?—A difference of 6 *d.* in our gas rental would be a little over 50,000 *l.* a year, taking our present sale of gas.

3060. What has your ratio of increase been lately?—During the last year, our rate of increase has been 7 per cent.

3061. What was it the year before?—7 per cent.

3062. The year before that, how much?—11 per cent.

3063. For the last two years it has been 7 per cent.?—Yes.

3064. The latter of those two years being under the reduced price?—Yes; the reduced price commenced in July 1865, but the increased consumption of gas is rather under the average.

3065. Mr. *Goldney.*] How are you taking the increase?—It is the increase on each year?

3066. It is the increase on the increase?—Yes.

3067. What rate would this 7 per cent. be on the datum point that you took for 1864, taking the year 1864 and the consumption in 1866, what would be the increase for that?—I have not got the figure; it is simply that the difference between one year and another amounts to 7 per cent. of the gas delivered; I can give it you for 5 or 10 years.

3068. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Looking back a few years, do you find that successive reductions have been followed by a proportionate increase?—No; not as a matter of course, at all. For instance, in the year 1848 the company reduced the price from 7 *s.* to 6 *s.* The ordinary rate of increase was about 10 per cent., but the increase in that year when we reduced the price from 7 *s.* to 6 *s.* was only 5 per cent.

3069. Was there any further increase the year after that?—In the year 1851 we reduced the price from 6 *s.* to 5 *s.*; there was a slight increase, but by no means an unusual increase.

3070. *Chairman.*] You consider the increase in the sale of gas to be due rather to the occupation of new streets and the opening of new houses than to the fluctuation in the price?—That is proved to be the case throughout our history.

3071. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You have three manufacturing stations, have you not?—Yes.

3072. Of about equal capacity?—Nearly the same productive capacity.

3073. One at Fulham?—Yes.

3074. One at St. Pancras?—Yes.

3075. And one at Shoreditch?—Yes.

3076. Constituting your western, central, and eastern stations?—Yes.

3077. Are they under totally different engineers?—They are; there is an engineer attached to each, and no engineer in chief over the whole; that was kept up to the end of last year.

3078. Are they kept by the directors in a sort of rivalry?—That is the mode; the expenses are separated one from the other with a view of stimulating the engineers, and causing some emulation between them with a view to economy, and they are dealt with according to the results.

3079. I am told to ask you whether there is not a communication between

Mr. H. Chubb.

4 June 1867.

all the works, so that you can shift the supply of one district to another?—Yes.

3080. But, as a general rule, each station has its own field of supply, and you check all the receipts and all the expenditure referring to that particular station?—That is so.

3081. I believe that the directors have a detailed report before them every week from each station?—Yes.

3082. Therefore they have the means of comparing them with the corresponding week in the previous year?—Yes.

3083. The directors meet at the stations twice a week, do they not?—They do.

3084. And they have before them every officer employed at that station?—They have.

3085. Can you suggest, or have you heard suggested by any one, a more regular and economical method of managing gas works than you pursue?—I have heard no suggestions that could in any way economise our system, or improve the mode of working with a view to economy, and I have been connected with very large commercial undertakings. I know none so well conducted, or so carefully watched over and anxiously looked to by the directors and those in command.

3086. If any suggestion can be made for your improvement, are you quite willing to adopt it?—There is no improvement suggested that the directors do not test. Every coal that is brought before them with the view of making more gas per ton is carefully examined by their own officers, one against the other, so that the results may be compared, and if any good can be obtained out of it, they instantly avail themselves of it; they constantly keep in view the possibility of increasing the profit, and reducing the price of gas.

3087. With regard to the situation of your works, what is it as to the convenience of obtaining the coal?—We are not well placed for the economical conveyance of coal from the ship to the works; we are subject to considerable expense for canal dues and for lighterage.

3088. The St. Pancras and Shoreditch stations are on the Regent's Canal, are they not?—Yes.

3089. Where the dues are heavy, and the lighterage dear?—Yes.

3090. Fulham is on the Kensington Canal, is it not?—Yes; that is a shorter length of canal than the Regent's Canal; but it is high up the river, and the navigation impedes us a good deal.

3091. Have you felt the increased cost of coal?—Yes; we have in both cannel and Newcastle, but especially cannel.

3092. What Newcastle coal do you use?—We use a variety; chiefly the Leverson, the Lambton coal, and the Peelmain coal.

3093. What does that cost?—I think it is 15 *s.* per ton.

3094. That is what Mr. Cliff takes at 13 *s.* 3 *d.*?—Yes; in addition to that, we have to convey it to our works, which costs us 1 *s.* 6 *d.* to 1 *s.* 9 *d.* per ton.

3095. You mean in addition to the 13 *s.* 3 *d.*?—No, in addition to the 15 *s.*

3096. You spoke especially of cannel having risen upon you?—Yes.

3097. In what proportion has cannel risen since January 1865?—About 13 per cent.

3098. What has been the total rise on Newcastle coal?—From 9 *d.* to 1 *s.* per ton during the last year.

3099. Have the residual products kept pace in price with the coal?—They have not.

3100. Have you felt also the rise in wages?—Yes.

3101. To what extent have wages risen?—The wages have gone up from 4 *s.* to 4 *s.* 6 *d.* for the stokers; and there has been generally a rise in wages throughout the whole establishment. The engineer will speak more accurately to that particular point than I can.

3102. The rate of wages is rather on the increase than the decrease?—It is.

3103. Now, will you tell us the company's capital as applied to a ton of coal carbonised?—It works out to 6 *l.* 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton of coal carbonised.

3104. We have it that the average of all the London companies is 6 *l.* 6 *s.*; that is given by Dr. Frankland?—Yes.

3105. What do you work it out at?—I have not got that.

3106. Now,

3106. Now, with regard to the value of your works; you have lately constructed some large additional works, have you not?—We have.

3107. Have you on the basis of those, calculated what it would cost to supply the whole of your present works as they now stand?—Yes.

3108. Is that calculation on the basis of the prices actually quoted to you for works which you are doing?—Yes.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] We should like to know what works they are.

3109. Mr. *Peel.*] That is, at the three establishments, I suppose?—We have erected works at Fulham and Shoreditch.

3110. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Do you find that you could construct works along your whole system at a less figure than your capital?—We could not.

3111. Mr. *Peel.*] Not at less than 6 *l.* 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton?—We could not do it.

3112. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] That is, taking it as the actual capital which was given before?—Yes.

3113. Is that exclusive or inclusive of the land?—That includes the land.

3114. The Act of 1860, so far as you are concerned, did not incorporate the Gas Act for the first time?—It did not; the Act of 1854 incorporated the Gas Act.

3115. Previously to the year 1860 you were, under the Act of 1847, unrestricted with regard to the back dividends, were you not?—We were.

3116. The Act of 1860 restricted you to six years?—Yes.

3117. What did that strike off?—To pay the whole of the back dividends from the rate at which we paid them up to 10 per cent. would have amounted to 600,000 *l.*

3118. That is the total sum which in the year 1860, supposing you had money enough by the sale of your gas, you would have recouped the shareholders in the way of back dividends under the Act of 1847?—That is so.

3119. What is the difference between that and the recoupment allowed you under he Act of 1860?—That prevented our paying.

3120. That sum?—Yes, 600,000 *l.*

3121. The Imperial district, as you have described it, comprises both the urban and suburban supply, does it not?—Yes, it does.

3122. And the difference in return is, of course, considerable between the suburban as compared with the urban district for a mile main?—Yes.

3123. Do you make the price the same throughout the district?—We do.

3124. You have endeavoured, have you not, to increase your works, and to place them in situations which would be unobjectionable as you thought, and you have been denied those powers by Parliament?—Yes.

3125. In 1865 I believe your capital was exhausted, and you made an application to Parliament to raise more capital and to build additional works in Hackney Marshes?—Yes, we did.

3126. I believe that Bill passed the House of Commons, but was rejected in the House of Lords on the second reading, because, besides your new works in Hackney Marshes, you proposed some enlargement of the works at Fulham, to which objection was made by the Bishop of London?—That was so.

3127. In 1866 I believe you renewed your application to Parliament, omitting the enlargement of the works at Fulham, and that Bill was first taken in the House of Lords?—Yes.

3128. And was passed by that House?—It was.

3129. Then the House of Commons threw out the Bill on the second reading, because in that case the site selected in Hackney Marshes was too near to Victoria Park?—That was so.

3130. Although it was the same site which the House of Commons had passed the previous year?—Yes.

3131. Up to that time you had not enlarged either the works at Fulham or provided new ones in the Hackney Marshes?—No.

3132. All you have obtained from Parliament has been, I believe, power to raise 325,000 *l.* at 7 per cent., and that was under a supplemental Bill brought in in 1866, and which capital you have not been able to float beyond the small amount which has been mentioned?—That is so.

3133. Can you give me the rental per mile main?—The extent of our mains is 600 miles, and our rental amounts to 776 *l.* per mile main.

3134. What proportion does that bear to the receipts of other companies per mile

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

4 June 1867.

mile main in the metropolis?—I cannot say, but it must be very small as compared with many of them

3135. By the *Committee.*] Your rental is small?—Yes, compared with many of them.

3136. Your receipts are below the average?—Yes; in consequence of the suburban district.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

3137. First of all, before 1860, or before your district was made in 1857, what was the extent that you embraced within your powers?—It is precisely what the Act of 1860 laid down as the district which we should light.

3138. Before 1857, I said?—Before 1857 it was a large district.

3139. What did it comprise?—It embraced the district of the Western Company, a part of the London Company, the Independent, and a part of the Commercial.

3140. Which of those companies was first in the field of those you have mentioned?—I do not know.

3141. Can you tell me when you came into the field?—In 1821.

3142. Were there any companies in existence then?—Yes; the Chartered Company and the City.

3143. You came into the field in 1821 as a competing company with them?—I think there was some competition between us and the Chartered Company.

3144. You came in to occupy a portion of the ground, in 1821, that was occupied by those companies?—By the Chartered Company; a portion of the Chartered Company's district.

3145. And by the City Company?—I think not.

3146. You have told me of many companies?—I said that they were in existence; I did not say that we were competing with them.

3147. I did not ask you that; but you came to obtain powers over the district in which they were working?—Over the district, certainly.

3148. In 1857, before this took place, how many companies were actually in competition with you?—Four, in separate parts of our district.

3149. In competition with you?—Five, I think.

3150. Was it four or five——

Mr. *Richards.*] I believe it was three.

3151. Mr. *O'Malley* (To the *Witness*).] Can you tell me the names of them?—The London Company was the chief one that we were in competition with, or that was in competition with us.

3152. What are the names of the three?—The Independent and the Western are the other two.

3153. In 1857 you found it to your interest to get rid of that competition?—It was done as the district was arranged.

3154. In the interests of the company?—I presume they would not have done it otherwise, had they not considered it for their interest, and also for the interest of the public at the same time.

3155. Of course they coincided, at all events, it was for their own interest to do it?—Yes.

3156. Perhaps you will tell me what was the interest of the public at that time, and what dividends were being paid?—The Imperial Gas Company——

3157. They were paying 3 per cent. before 1857?—No; I have given you the list——

3158. No; I beg your pardon, it was another company. What dividend were they paying before 1857?—10 per cent. from 1854.

3159. *Chairman.*] Those portions of the figures which I have understood at all, I have taken notes of; but some of them are at present in blank, to be filled up by to-morrow.

3160. Mr. *O'Malley.*] When you arranged the district you say that it was effected on your part by abandoning a considerable portion of your works?—A considerable portion of our district.

3161. Was that a district in which you were in active operation at the time?—I believe so.

3162. Were you, in the district of the Western Company, in active operation then?—I am scarcely able to say; I was not there at the time.

3163. You

3163. You cannot tell me then whether you were in active operation in those districts, the abandoned districts; that you were actually occupying with your works?—I cannot, not for the supply of gas.

3164. Can you tell me what portion of the district you retained, and which the others receded from?—Yes; in the parish of St. Pancras the London Company were competing with us, and they receded from that.

3165. I believe that is a very large parish?—Yes.

3166. Anything else?—I can speak positively as to that; bnt I am not sure as to anything else.

3167. They receded from the parish of St. Pancras?—Yes; and Bloomsbury.

3168. Anything more?—I think not.

3169. Were they in active operation in the parishes of St. Pancras and Bloomsbury?—Yes.

3170. Had they their mains down?—They had.

3171. Had you your mains down also?—We had.

3172. What became of the mains when you withdrew?—They have been gradually taken up, or applied so as to make them useful.

3173. Or left in the ground?—There are very few left in the ground.

3174. I see that you are secretary; are you aware how many of them are left in the ground?—Not in detail; I could not describe it to you.

3175. I need scarcely ask you whether, after the evidence we have heard from some of the witnesses, they are scarcely worth removing, for whether removed or left waste, or sold for other purposes, there must be a very large loss upon the original outlay?—Of course there must be, if two mains are laid down where one only is wanted.

3176. If they have to take up a main that has been laid down and has been in use for several years, is it not a fact that there must be a very large loss upon the original outlay on those mains?—I should doubt it.

3177. Just understand me; suppose you lay down a main in a street, you have of course the labour of laying it down?—Yes.

3178. You have a new main to lay and to put in?—Yes.

3179. Suppose you have done this for several years, and then you have to dig the main up and dispose of it, do you mean to say that you can dispose of it for as much as will pay the original cost of the double labour?—Of course not.

3180. If not, there must be a loss, and is it not an immense loss?—I think that the total amount has been exaggerated.

3181. As much as 75 per cent.?—I cannot say.

3182. It would be, would it not, a very considerable loss?—It appears plain, I think, that if two mains are laid down instead of one, there must be some loss.

3183. Some loss in taking them up and selling the old materials?—Yes.

[The Witness withdrew.

Chairman.] One of the Committee has been called away, and we are approaching the time at which the House sits, therefore, perhaps we had better adjourn till to-morrow morning. (To Mr. *Hope Scott*). Can you give us any information, for it would be convenient to the Committee to know what is likely to be the future course of your proceedings?

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] When will the House rise, Sir?

Chairman.] I presume the House will sit on Friday; we believe so; certainly it will sit on Thursday.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I do not think that we shall be able to finish our case this week. We have, as you know, Sir, so many different companies and so much different information to collect from them, that I do not think I can undertake to say the evidence will be finished in three days.

Chairman.] It would be very convenient if we could finish the evidence, and then have the pleasure of hearing you afterwards.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We will do, Sir, what we can. It is very necessary for our case, that it should be very fully gone into, and we were not heard last year.

4 June 1867.

Chairman.] Perhaps the different companies will be kind enough to send here the witnesses whose department it is to know exactly the particular things which they desire to lay before the Committee, and also to have papers prepared, and let the other side see them. I think then that we shall get more rapidly through.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We will do, Sir, what we can in that respect.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I wish to inquire, Sir, as to the accounts which were handed in yesterday.

Chairman.] I suppose the shorthand writer has sent them to the press.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Yes; but the printer has not printed them.

Mr. *Webster.*] They are referred to as being in the Appendix.

Chairman.] I understand that they are being printed.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Do you propose, Sir, to sit on Friday or not?

Chairman.] If you could finish all the evidence on Friday, and so make a clear separation, I think it would be worth while to do it.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I do not think we can do that, Sir; I cannot say so without further communication with my clients.

Chairman.] Perhaps you will raise the question to-morrow morning; we should be glad if we could do it.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 5th June 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.
Mr. J. Hardy.
Mr. Peel.
Mr. Goldney.
Mr. Lefevre.

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Harry Chubb* re-called; and further cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley*.

3184. YOU now hand in the paper you were referring to in your evidence yesterday?—Yes; the paper is altered, by being worked out all in decimals.

Mr. *H. Chubb*.
5 June 1867.

[*The Witness delivered in the Paper, which is as follows*:—]

ANALYSIS of the ACCOUNTS of the IMPERIAL GAS COMPANY for the Year 1866.

		Amount.	Per 1,000 Feet Gas Sold.	Amount.	Per 1,000 Feet Gas Sold.
INCOME:	£.	£.	*d.*	£.	*d.*
Gas Rental		477,037	48·09		
Rental of Meters	8,671				
Less Repairs	5,071	3,600	·36		
Old Materials		1,124	·11		
Interest		358	·04		
				482,119	48·60
EXPENDITURE:					
Coals		246,560	24·86		
Less Products		99,884	10·07		
		146,676	14·79		
Management		21,308	2·15		
Manufacture	369,291				
Less Coals	246,560				
		122,731	12·37		
Distribution	38,191				
Less Meter repairs	5,071				
		33,120	3 34		
Law and Parliamentary charges		1,834	0·18		
Bad debts		3,263	·33		
				328,932	33·16
Profit			£.	153,187	15·44
Required for Interest on Borrowed Capital		27,687	2·79		
Ditto - Contingent Fund		3,000	·30		
Ditto - Dividend at prescribed rates		130,309	13·14		
		160,996	16·23		
Profit as above		153,187	15·44		
Deficit	£.	78·09	0·79		

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

5 June 1867.

3185. I was about to ask you yesterday upon the subject of your dividend; in 1854 you went to Parliament for an increase of capital, did you not?—We did.

3186. And in 1864 you got an increase of 650,000 *l.* share capital?—Yes.

3187. Of course you then came under all the restrictions of the Act of 1847?—Yes.

3188. And in 1854, what works had you?—We had the works at St. Pancras, Shoreditch, and at Fulham.

3189. Then at the three places where you have works now, you had works in 1854?—Yes, but to a less extent.

3190. I do not speak now of the amount of gas made; but in point of fact, the district which you have now to supply is a smaller district than you had to supply in the year 1854?—Yes.

3191. What was that 650,000 *l.* expended upon?—In works.

3192. In enlargement of the works?—Yes, enlargement of the works generally.

3193. So that having those three works in the year 1854 constructed for the purpose of, I suppose, supplying the district over which you had powers, you got your capital doubled, and your district has since been considerably contracted?—The district in 1857 was somewhat contracted; but I should explain that some of the districting arrangements took place much earlier than the year 1857.

3194. It is unfortunate that we had not got that fact before; which arrangements were they?—You left off at that point last night.

3195. I finished at that point; what were the arrangements?—The districting that took place in the year 1857, related simply to the London Company and to a part of the Western Company, the district that they now hold. The London Company were competing with the Imperial Company in St. Pancras parish to a certain extent, and the Western Company in the Kensington district; but a portion of that had been settled with the Western Company in the year 1830.

3196. But in the year 1860, you had three companies competing with you, did you not?—No.

3197. Then both you and your instructors were wrong, because you said five, which was corrected to three?—It was a matter of date altogether.

3198. How many, then, do you make it in the year 1860?—The London in St. Pancras, and the Western in a portion of Kensington.

3199. That was all you were competing with in the year 1857?—Yes.

3200. And of course in the year 1860 also?——

3201. *Chairman.*] You made your districting arrangement in the year 1857, but it was first brought before Parliament in the year 1860?—Yes, but there was an earlier districting in the year 1830, which was omitted yesterday.

3202. Mr. *O'Malley.*] What was that?—That comprised the British, then the Commercial, in the east, and the Independent, and a portion of the western districts.

3203. That was in the year 1830?—Yes.

3204. Had you withdrawn from all that district in the year 1860?—Yes.

3205. Will you kindly look at that map (*handing a map to the Witness*); does that map correctly represent what districts you had in 1857, and what you gave up in 1857. That is the map which was returned to Parliament in the year 1859?—I was not secretary of the company at that time, and it is exceedingly difficult for me to tell upon the map the exact state of the case.

Chairman.] You say that that map was laid before Parliament in the year 1860?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Yes, it was ordered by the House.

Mr. *Richards.*] If that is so, we do not dispute it, of course.

Chairman.] We will assume that it is so unless there is any dispute about it.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] That will answer my purpose.

Mr. *Richards.*] We fully admit that that is correct if it is the map which was laid before Parliament.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] It would be very important that the Committee should have before them the Blue Book of 1860.

Chairman.] If it is important, there are means of bringing it before the Committee.

3206-7. Mr. *O'Malley.*] At all events, you have a smaller district now than you had before the year 1857?—Yes.

3208. Was that 650,000 *l.* laid out immediately after the passing of the Act of 1864 in enlarging the works?—No.

3209. How long was that sum in being expended?—Between 1854 and 1864, that is to say, 10 years.

3210. Can you tell me at how much per annum that sum was expended in those 10 years?—I have not got the outlay from year to year, but it has been very gradual; as occasion required that money was called and expended.

3211. Have you been charging your 10 per cent. dividend on that 650,000 *l.* since the year 1860?—Yes.

3212. You have been charging against the public your 10 per cent. dividend on that 650,000 *l.* since the year 1860?—Yes, the dividend having been earned it was paid.

3213. When did you begin to charge your dividend upon the second 650,000*l.*; immediately after the passing of the Act of 1854?—When the shares were called and paid upon.

3214. How soon was that?—I cannot say off-hand.

3215. Did you do it as soon as the year 1856?—I should say that the shares were immediately issued, calls made upon them, and as they were paid, so the 10 per cent., having been earned, was paid upon them.

3216. The money having taken 10 years to expend so as to be reproductive to the public, you have been charging 10 per cent. dividend since the calls were paid up?—Dividends at that rate have been paid.

3217. Mr. *Peel.*] Upon that portion which was paid up only?—Upon that portion which was paid up only.

3218. Mr. *O'Malley.*] How soon was that paid up; within how many years——

3219. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say that as you have wanted capital for the extension of your works, you have called it up?—Yes.

3220. And as you have called it up you have allowed the 10 per cent. to the contributers upon it?—Yes.

3221. And the 10 per cent. has been paid upon it before the works for which the capital was called were completed, or could become productive?—I am not sure of that.

3222. Has it been allowed from the moment that the call was made?—Yes.

3223. Then does it not follow that it was allowed before the works could become productive?—I do not know the circumstances; there may be other means of doing it.

3224. *Chairman* (to Mr. *Richards*).] Is there any dispute upon that point, Mr. Richards?

3225. Mr. *Richards.*] What has been done in some instances is this; the money has been raised on debentures; that money has been expended in works, and that money having fructified, you paid off the debentures by calling up fresh capital?—That was so.

3226. Mr. *O'Malley.*] When was the last call made on that second 650,000 *l.*?—In January 1865.

3227. What was the amount?—5 *l.*

3228. When was the next call made?—The one preceding was in July 1864.

3229. Were you not charging dividends on the 650,000 *l.* shares before that?—I should say not.

3230. Just look at your accounts. You can tell me, can you not, when was the first time you took credit for the 10 per cent. on the 1,300,000 *l.*; it is a pity that we have not the accountant here himself?—You would prefer him, probably.

3231. No, I prefer to have you, now we have gone so far?—The half year, ending July 1865, was the first period that we paid a dividend on the whole capital of 1,300,000 *l.*

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

5 June 1867.

3232. What did you pay on before that; the half year before that?—At that time there was only 45 *l.* paid on one portion of the capital, and 50 *l.* paid on the 650,000 *l.* There was only 45 *l.* paid, and then the first 50 *l.* was paid; the dividend was 32,500 *l.* on one portion, and 29,250 *l.* on the other.

Chairman.] We understand that the company have acted upon the plan of issuing capital, and paying a dividend upon it as soon as it has been issued, not waiting for the time when the works became productive for which it was issued. But shall we be any wiser for this detailed examination; is not your object to show that that was their course of proceeding?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Certainly.

Chairman.] But that is admitted.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] What I wanted to see was, whether that was really the course of proceeding.

Chairman.] But they make the admission.

3233. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I wanted to carry that further; but I see, by the last two answers, that I cannot have it any further, and I am going to stop there. (To the *Witness.*) Now, as to your 130,000 *l.*, did the debentures represent, in fact, 280,000 *l.*, which is alleged as appropriated from the profits to the capital?—It is stated, in the Act of 1854, to be 280,000 *l.* and upwards, and the sum was actually 338,000 *l.* odd.

3234. So that in fact 338,000 *l.* have been taken, as it were, from the dividend, as you, the company, allege, and applied to capital purposes?—Yes.

3235. To the enlargement and improvement of the works and various things of that kind?—Yes.

3236. That was first taken from the profits, and then you went to Parliament saying that you ought to be allowed interest on the money, and then, instead of spending it as income, you applied it to the improvement of your works?—It was proved before Parliament that so much money had been spent on profits, and the result was that 13,000 *l.* a year was allowed for the interest on that money.

3237. You stated yesterday that an amount of 600,000 *l.* would be required to make up your past dividends?—Yes, up to 1854.

3238. Did it strike you that that 329,000 *l.* ought to be deducted from that 660,000 *l.*?—No.

3239. Did not the taking it out of profits and applying it to capital purposes, make a vacuum of so much in your dividends?—I do not see that at all.

3240. But if the 329,000 *l.* instead of being applied to capital purposes had been applied to dividend, your dividends would have been much larger during all that period?—Yes; they were not paid.

3241. So that, in fact, the 329,000 *l.* was a Parliamentary repayment of defective dividend to that extent?—I do not see that.

Chairman.] I do not follow this cross-examination, but it is perhaps my fault; we should be very glad to hear any comment from you by-and-by, but if the facts are undisputed it is only occupying the time of the Committee to hear arguments from the Witness; we do not care a farthing for arguments that come through a witness.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] But I was afraid that I might be assuming something that the Witness had not said.

Chairman.] The Witness says that a certain sum which had been saved from the profits, and expended as capital, was afterwards under the sanction of the Act of Parliament restored to capital in a certain form, and interest paid upon it.

Mr. *Richards.*] That is so; this is a matter which stands visible on the face of the Act of Parliament; "And whereas the company have expended," and so on.

Chairman.] So I understand it; we shall be most happy to hear comments by-and-by, but it is no use to ask this witness things which he knows

knows imperfectly, he not having been an officer of the company at the time when they occurred.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] On the statute it appears to be 280,000 *l.* and upwards, and according to the Witness it is 328,000 *l.*

Chairman.] Suppose it does, that does not carry it any further.

Mr. *Richards.*] Again, the Act of Parliament explains that.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I would not ask these questions if I did not see the importance of them; I will only pray that the same patience may be extended to me as has been extended to my learned friends on the other side.

Chairman.] Equal patience has been extended, and will be extended to all sides; but the members of the Committee all agree in this, that they will take facts from the witnesses and arguments from the Counsel.

3242. Mr. *O'Malley* (to the *Witness*).] When you told the Committee that the deficiency of the capital to be made up to the year 1864 would amount to 600,000 *l.*, you excluded from your calculation the 329,000 *l.*?—Yes, because I had no idea it formed any part of the question, nor have I that idea now.

3243. Now, you told us that of your shares, that is to say, your new issue of shares for 300,000 *l.*, you have raised 55,000 *l.*?—Yes, to the end of December last we had raised 55,000 *l.*

3244. Was that a call upon the whole amount of shares?—Those that were issued.

3245. Was it the whole amount that you were authorised to issue, or was it a smaller amount?—Yes, a deposit was required of 3 *l.* per share, and the holders were allowed to pay up in advance, if they desired to do so.

3246. The question I wished to put was this: was that a payment in respect to all the shares which you were authorised to issue, or on only a part of the shares which you were authorised to issue?—Out of the entire shares which we were authorised to issue, namely, 26,000 shares, we issued to the 31st of December last 17,640, and upon that a 3 *l.* deposit was made, and some calls in advance.

3247. It is only on the 17,640, and not on the 26,000 shares?—Just so.

3248. Now, with regard to the 17,640 shares which you issued, did you issue them to the public?—No; under the Act of Parliament we were bound, in the first instance, to offer them to the shareholders ratably.

3249. And they were taken by them?—The shares that were taken by the shareholders.

3250. Then there remained about 9,000 shares still undisposed of; did you offer them to the public?—They have not been offered to the public in any public manner.

3251. Then, as to whether there is a difficulty or not in getting rid of them to the public, you have not ascertained?—Only by inquiring of the sharebroker as to the steps that should be taken to issue them.

3252. But you have taken no steps to issue them to the public?—No public steps have been taken.

3253. Now, taking the last year, 1866, in your return you were quoted in the Stock Market?—I believe so.

3254. Were not your 10 per cent. shares quoted at 82 and 83?—I think not, last year.

3255. Do you not know that last year they were quoted at 82 and 83?—I think not.

3256. When were they quoted at 82 and 83?—It might have been the year before.

3257. What were they quoted at last year?—I do not think they were higher than 73.

3258. Just recollect whether that is accurate or not?—I speak from memory, but my belief is they never reached higher than 76; my recollection is that it was 73 the whole of last year, but they might have been 76.

3259. Have you computed at the rate of 76 what interest the purchaser was getting?—No, but it is very easily done.

3260. It is not quite 7 per cent., is it?—It is under 7 per cent.

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

5 June 1867.

3261. What circumstance was there to make the second shares bearing 7 per cent. less valuable than the 10 per cent., because you get 7 per cent. on your new shares?

Chairman.] It is very evident that there was one circumstance, because one might rise and the other might not.

Mr. *Richards.*] They were issued in December.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I am not aware that one might rise and the other not.

Mr. *Goldney.*] The 10 per cent. shares are entitled to 3 per cent. in addition after the 7 per cent. are paid all round.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] But the 10 per cent. shares are now getting their maximum. A man who bought the 10 per cent. shares at 73 would be getting under 7 per cent. for his money, while the man who bought at par the 7 per cent. shares would be getting more than the other man.

Witness.] Our shares have fallen considerably since that; they have been as low as 63.

3262. The Parliamentary agitation reduced them, I suppose?—It reduced our 10 per cent. shares to 63.

3263. But can you offer any explanation why the purchaser of the 10 per cent. shares should be content with a less interest than the purchaser of the 7 per cent. shares?—My impression is that the shares were still lower in value at the end of last year than 72. I thought you spoke of the average throughout the year.

3264. Mr. *Peel.*] Is it any part of your business to watch the share market?—No, not at all.

3265. Mr. *O'Malley.*] We can get that correctly at the Stock Exchange?—I have no doubt you can.

3266. I find from this document that in 1865 it was 85 *ex* dividend, and 83½ *ex* dividend.

Mr. *Richards.*] What is that paper?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] It is the Stock Exchange List.

Chairman.] I have done my best to shorten what appears to us a useless cross-examination. The Committee agree with me in that, but we are waiting until some light bursts upon us.

Mr. *Denison.*] Let me help you, Sir. My learned friend Mr. O'Malley says that he has got a document there. I daresay he has, but he is examining the Witness, and can only ask him a question.

Chairman.] Put your question, Mr. O'Malley, and we will see if it is objected to.

3267. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I ask you whether your shares in the year 1865 were not selling at 84½ and 83½ *ex* dividend, the highest and lowest?—I cannot say.

3268. Your 10 per cent. shares?—I cannot say.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I am very unwilling to go on, if the Committee wish me not to continue.

Chairman.] I am very unwilling to stop a cross-examination, because a greater latitude is always allowed than in direct examination; but the Committee feel with me that the cross-examination is not carrying us any further.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] The Witness, in his direct examination, stated that they could not get the 7 per cent. shares off their hands, and my object was to show that that was not correct.

Chairman.] You have got from the Witness what is very important; namely, that they did not offer them to the public.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Then I wanted to get the premium.

Chairman.]

Chairman.] The Witness does not know the premium. You can make any comment you please afterwards.

3269. Mr. *O'Malley* (to the *Witness*).] You said, in answer to a previous question yesterday, when you were asked whether you had any engineer in chief, that you had no engineer in chief to the end of last year; have you an engineer in chief now?—No.

3270. Then what did you mean by limiting your answer?—I only spoke of one engineer being in charge of each of the works up to the end of last year; one of our engineers retired at the end of the year, and temporarily two of the works have been put under one engineer; still, we have no engineer in chief, as it were.

3271. I see by your accounts here, which were put in the other day, that your working expenses, less the sum applicable to the payment of interest upon your disbursements, was 430,534 *l.*, leaving out the shillings. If you deduct those payments, bad debts, contingency fund, and so on, and take that from your expenditure, your expenditure amounts to 430,534 *l.*?—I have no such figure before me.

3272. But if you will calculate it you will find that it is so?—I think it would be convenient if you would take the same paper as I have.

3273. I mean the account which was handed in and which is printed; your whole expenditure is 587,074 *l.*?—Yes, including the dividends, the amount of interest on borrowed capital, bad debts, and the contingency fund.

3274. Those four figures that are grouped at the close, give 156,540 *l.* without the shillings?—That seems right.

3275. That 156,540 *l.* deducted from the 587,074 *l.*, leaves 430,534 *l.* as the amount of your expenditure?——

3276. Now, in your account which was returned last year, which is in the Blue Book, the same figure is 181,045 *l.*, and taking that from the expenditure, it leaves 394,277 *l.* as the expenditure, independently of the payment of interest. Now, how do you account for the difference between 430,534 *l.* expended in one year, and 394,277 *l.* in the next year?—Do you want the different items as showing the different amount of expenditure?

3277. Yes; I want them, because it makes me distrust the accounts (if you will excuse my saying so) when I see a difference of 38,000 *l.*?—I think that the accounts speak for themselves, they being subdivided under the different heads of management and distribution.

3278. No; I find that the expenditure of last year, independently of payments in respect of interest, dividend, and bad debts, is 394,277 *l.* against 430,534 *l.* this year. I wish to know if you have any explanation to offer on that?—On the face of it there is a difference of 30,000 *l.* on coals; in the first year the charge of coals is 216,937 *l.*, and in the next year it is 246,560 *l.*

3279. Now, that leads me to ask you what you have not supplied in your evidence; can you tell me how many tons of coal were consumed in making gas last year, in 1866?

Mr. *Richards.*] There is a sum on the face of the accounts of 27,000 *l.* carried to the reserved fund, which my learned friend has not noticed.

3280. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I have taken that into account; that has nothing to do with it. (To the *Witness.*) Now, how many tons of coal were consumed in making gas last year?—In round numbers, 299,000 tons of coal were carbonised.

3281. Will you take the year before, and tell me the same thing?—In the previous year, 1865, there were 270,000 tons of coal carbonised.

3282. Now, does that include the whole of the cannel gas and Newcastle?—The cannel and the Newcastle are included.

3283. Can you separate them?—Yes.

3284. Will you do so?—In the year 1865 Newcastle was 251,000 tons, and the cannel 19,000 tons odd—close upon 20,000; last year it was 273,200 Newcastle, and the cannel was 25,800.

3285. Then I understand you to say that that represents the amount actually carbonised?—It does.

3286. Did I understand you to say that you use 10 per cent. of cannel?—Not quite.

3287. Do you use 10 per cent. all the year round?—No, I should think not; it is unequal. It depends on the quality of the Newcastle coal that is being used,

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

5 June 1867.

used, the condition of the coal, and the particular coal in use at the time; they use cannel so as to bring up the illuminating power of the Newcastle coal to the mark.

3288. But it varies very much according to the quality of the Newcastle coal, and also the quality of the cannel, I suppose?—Yes, of course.

3289. Do you use all the cannel of one quality?—We buy it on account.

3290. You buy it as all of one quality?—Yes.

3291. You use more in the winter months than in the summer months, I suppose?—It depends entirely on the quality of the Newcastle coal. But of course in the winter time the gas is more difficult to keep up to the illuminating power than in the summer.

3292. Now if you have the Blue Book of last year before you, at page 346 in the accounts of this company, you will see "Return of the Amount charged to each Vestry or Board for Lamps." You light a good many parishes?—Yes.

3293. Among the rest, Marylebone and St. Pancras?—Yes.

3294. Do you supply the same quality of light to each of them?—No.

3295. What is the difference?—In Marylebone it is a four foot burner, and in St. Pancras it is a five foot burner; four and five feet per hour.

3296. That five feet burner works out to 3 *l.* 7 *s.* in Marylebone, and 4 *l.* 1 *s.* in St. Pancras?—They are not the same.

3297. Is there any reason, except the difference in the burner, for charging less per lamp to the Marylebone parish than to St. Pancras?—The rate of charge for the gas is not the same; that is another difference.

3298. It is less in Marylebone than in St. Pancras?—Yes.

3299. What is the price in Marylebone?—The price per 1,000 cubic feet in Marylebone is just 3 *s.*

3300. What is it in St. Pancras?—3 *s.* 3 *d.*

3301. Then you supply to the public lamps in one parish at the rate of 3 *s.*, and in the other at the rate of 3 *s.* 3 *d.*?—Yes.

3302. What does that difference arise from?—In the case of Marylebone, it is a charge that has existed for many years; in fact, from old times, and it has not been altered.

3303. What was its origin?—I am not able to say.

3304. What year?—I am told that it was the year 1852.

3305. Was that a boon given to them, because it was at a time when your gas was very high?—I can tell you the price——

3306. What was the price to the public, in the year 1852?—4 *s.* 6*d.*

3307. Are you quite sure?—I will look at the figures; yes, in 1852 it was 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

3308. That was the time when the arrangement was made?—So I am informed.

3309. Have you any explanation, except that. Was it in respect of the purchase of goodwill, or anything of that kind?—I cannot go back so far as that.

3310. With respect to the capital that you have called in, when those shares were taken, what has that been expended in?—Do you mean the amount that we received on the 325,000 *l.* capital?

3311. The 17,000 shares?—The company having applied to Parliament two years, lost their Bill, and were in great financial difficulty; they had to borrow a large sum from the bankers, and they were otherwise straitened. The money has been applied in paying off the bankers, and in those works which were in hand, and which had of necessity to be finished.

3312. And the law expenses, I suppose?—All the expenses of the company.

3313. With regard to the works, you had been applying to Parliament before that?—We applied for more means than the 325,000 *l.*; we applied in 1865.

3314. You got 325,000 *l.*?—Yes, in 1866; but, in the meantime, we ran into debt, and a considerable amount of works was going on.

3315. Was it in increasing the works, or in legal expenses that you spent that money?—Generally, in the expenses of the company, in paying the debts they owed.

3316. The current expenses of the company, and the debts you owed?—Yes, 10 per cent. on the shares of the company.

3317. One

3317. One of your works is represented on the map by the red mark, in the yellow district, is it not?—Yes, just by the letter "O" in London, between the "O" and the "N."

3318. You carry your mains through the districts of other companies, do you not?—Yes.

3319. Which way do you go?—There are two mains from Fulham, conveying gas to the districts of the company; one runs up the King's-road, Chelsea, across Hyde Park, to Oxford-street, and the other goes in the rear, across Kensington Palace Gardens.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

3320. It was put into your mouth that you spent 85,000 *l.* in current expenses; I understand that you have raised capital to the amount of 85,000 *l.*, and that at the time when you did so you were in debt to the bankers?—Yes.

Chairman.] We do not at all suppose that you have confused your revenue and capital accounts.

3321. Mr. *Richards.*] You were asked with regard to the prices charged in St. Pancras and Marylebone, and you said that the price charged in Marylebone has been in existence for a long time?—Yes.

3322. Are you aware that there never has been any competition in the parish of Marylebone?—I understand that that was so.

3323. But in St. Pancras there was at one time a very active competition between the London and the Imperial?—Yes.

3324. In the year 1857 the London Gas Company retired from St. Pancras?—Yes.

3325. In either case, has the price of gas ever been raised since that arrangement was made?—No, it has been reduced.

3326. Has it not been reduced in St. Pancras?—Yes.

3327. Is it not the fact that at the present moment it is 9 *d.* per 1,000 less than it is to the public?—Yes.

3328. There is a theory (I do not say that it is a right one) that the public lamps should be supplied cheaper than private consumers?—Yes.

3329. On public lamps there is considerable waste of gas in the amount of main required, is there not?—Yes; that, no doubt, accounts very largely for the unaccounted for gas.

3330. In the place where there was competition, was it a small amount higher per 1,000 cubic feet than in the place where there was no competition?—Yes, with regard to the public lamps.

3331. Now with regard to your new shares; by your Act of Parliament you were compelled to offer them to the shareholders in the first instance?—Yes.

3332. And were a certain number of them not taken up by trustees, and others who had not the means of taking them up?—Yes.

3333. At the end of the year?—Yes.

3334. Was not the money market in such a condition last year as made it impolitic in any company to put shares into the open market?—Yes.

3335. At that time, and immediately afterwards, the shares that were out with 3 *l.* paid were at a discount?—Yes.

3336. Would any man in his senses ——

Chairman.] You need not pursue that.

3337. Mr. *Richards.*] Since the districting arrangement, the district that you are legally capable of lighting has been diminished?—It is strictly true.

3338. Except that in one case you have no limit to the north?—None.

3339. In fact, you might, legally speaking, light from London to York if you thought proper?—Just so; another fact is, that the district which we light at present has been relieved of the London Company, so that in respect of that district we have a larger demand.

3340. When it is said that your district is diminished, is it not the fact that the demand for gas has enormously increased?—It is so; since the year 1857 it has doubled itself.

3341. It has increased on an average of 10 per cent., has it not?—Yes.

Mr. *H. Chubb.*

5 June 1867.

3342. Your capital of 650,000 *l.* was an addition on the original capital of 650,000 *l.*?—Yes.

3343. In the year 1854 the whole of that matter was thoroughly gone into before a Committee of the House of Commons?—It was.

3344. In the Imperial Gas Act, 1854, sections 25 to 31, that matter is fully explained?—Yes.

Chairman.] You need not go into that.

3345. Mr. *Richards.*] You were asked about a certain excess; am I right in saying that the excess of 1866 over 1865 in coals nett amounts to 23,000*l.*?—Yes.

3346. Upwards; 23,328 *l.*?—Yes.

Chairman.] We have been told that there was a difference in the expenditure of 30,000 *l.* for coals.

Mr. *Richards.*] We do not agree to that.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We think it better to take that, less the residual products.

3347. Mr. *Richards.*] The increase was 23,328 *l.* nett for coals?—Yes.

3348. Management, increase 266 *l.*?—Yes.

3349. Manufacture, increase 8,700 *l.*?—Yes.

3350. That includes labour, does it not?—Yes.

3351. Making a total of 32,294 *l.*?—Yes.

3352. Then there is a decrease in 1866, distribution, 1,970 *l.*?—Yes.

3353. Law and Parliamentary expenses, 1,100 *l.*?—Yes.

3354. Making a total of 3,070 *l.*?—That is so.

3355. To be deducted from the 32,294 *l.*?—Yes, that leaves the result which is actually shown.

3356. That is an increase in your expenses of 7 per cent. in all, is it not?—It is so.

3357. And the increase of gas sold is 8 per cent. in the year 1866?—It is so.

3358. It is suggested that you have called up your capital, and immediately paid 10 per cent.; in every instance where a call has been made, has it been made immediately after the half-yearly day, the first week in July, or the first week in January, or thereabouts?—It has been so; it has been in January and July on every occasion.

3359. Then, in some instances, you have borrowed money on debentures which, having fructified, you then paid off the debentures by calling up fresh capital?—That has been the plan adopted.

3360. Have you in any instance called up any unnecessary capital?—Not since my connection with the company; not one halfpenny has been called up until it has been absolutely required for the execution of the company's works, and to meet the demand of the public.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Thomas Neesham Kirkham,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

Mr. *T. N. Kirkham.*

3361. You are one of the Engineers of the Imperial Gas Company, are you not?—I am.

3362. I believe that you have been in their service for more than 20 years?—I have.

3363. And your father was one of their engineers before you?—He was.

3364. Which of the works do you direct?—The Fulham Station.

3365. Do you know how many tons of coal were carbonised last year by the Imperial Company at the three stations?—Nearly 300,000 tons.

3366. You make only common gas, I believe?—Only common gas.

3367. That coal is in the bulk of it Newcastle coal?—Yes.

3368. What per-centage of cannel do you use?—We use something like 9 per cent; a little under 9 per cent.

3369. You are speaking now of the average as 9 per cent.?—Yes.

3370. I suppose

3370. I suppose that at times, in order to keep up your illuminating power, you use more than 9 per cent.?—Yes, we have to increase it.

3371. Up to what amount have you to increase it?—Sometimes as high as 11 per cent.

3372. How many cubic feet of gas have been produced from those 300,000 tons of coal at the whole of the three stations?—2,838,000,000.

3373. The quantity of gas made was 2,838,000,000?—Yes.

3374. How much have you sold of that?—2,380,521,000.

3375. What is the per-centage of unaccounted for gas?—About 16 per cent.

3376. Now with regard to the illuminating power, before the Act of 1860, as we know, you were tied to 12 wax candles?—Yes.

3377. That became 12 sperm candles by the Act of 1860?—Yes.

3378. You agree that that is a difference of about 10 per cent.?—It is over 10 per cent.; it is nearly 16 per cent.

3379. The illuminating power?—Yes.

3380. Between 12 wax candles and 12 sperm candles?—Between 12 wax candles and 12 sperm candles; it is nearly two candles difference.

3381. What has been the illuminating power of the gas which you have been supplying, on an average, since the year 1860?—14 and 14½ candle.

3382. You mean, at the works you distribute 14 and 14½ candle gas?—No, in the districts.

3383. How much is it at the works before it has left the gas holder?—There is very little difference.

3384. We are now speaking of sperm candles, which are prescribed by the Act of 1860?—Yes.

3385. Your gas has been regularly tested by some public authority, I suppose?—It has.

3386. And it has never been found below the standard?—Not that I have heard of.

3387. Has the supply been given in every case when demanded?—Yes.

3388. You have a testing house at each of the stations?—Yes.

3389. And you allow both the official examiners and the public access to those testing places?—Yes, at any time on application.

3390. You have never had any legal proceedings against you for a breach of the Act of Parliament?—No.

3391. Nor any inquiry by the Home Secretary?—No.

3392. Nor any interference through a magistrate?—No.

3393. I believe you are exposed (if I am to call it a case of exposure) to no less than 14 local authorities within your district?—Yes, the district supplied by the whole of the company.

3394. There are 14 inquisitors in your district; you are in the face of a fourteen-headed public, so to speak; how many of the districts have appointed examiners for the purpose of testing the gas?—Only three.

3395. Marylebone, St. Pancras, and the Board of Works for the Hackney district are the three, I believe?—Yes.

3396. As a matter of fact, that provides testing for the gas from all the works?—It does, it represents the three stations.

3397. Marylebone tests Fulham?—Yes.

3398. Where does Marylebone test Fulham, is it in the Marylebone district?—Yes, in the Marylebone district.

3399. At what distance from the Fulham works?—Four miles.

3400. With regard to the increase in the price of coal and the increase in wages, Mr. Chubb has spoken to those facts; can you tell us anything in detail?—Carbonising wages have risen 25 per cent. since the year 1860.

3401. You mean the retort labour?—The retort labour.

3402. And the coals?—They have advanced in price, but I am not so well able to speak of that.

3403. Now, as a matter of practical experience, do you find the increase in the price of coal as a rule compensated for by the increase in the price of the residual products?—Not at all.

3404. The sale of coal is governed by the ordinary rules of supply and demand, and has no relation to the sale of coke?—None.

3405. You must make the coke whether you can sell it or not?—Of course.

Mr. *T. N. Kirkham.*

5 June 1867.

3406. Making gas in large quantities, you must make large quantities of coke?—Yes.

3407. And you must get it off the premises somehow?—Yes.

3408. Supposing the weather be dark, heavy, and misty, you require an extra production of gas?—Yes.

3409. And at such times the weather may be extremely mild, so as to cause no market for coke at all?—That frequently happens.

3410. How many chaldrons of coke do you make during the winter months at two of the Imperial stations; I have not got the third?—I cannot give you that.

3410.* Mr. *Webster*]. What tonnage?

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You will see in a moment if you will trust me with my own case.

Witness.] We, as a rule, make a chaldron of coke from every ton of coal.

3411. Have you as much as 5,000 chaldrons of coke made in a week sometimes?—Yes.

3412. You have no room to keep such a quantity as that, have you?—No.

3413. Is the make of gas pretty equally divided among the three stations?—Yes.

3414. What occurs at one station would occur at the others, in this respect?—Yes; but though we may be making the same quantity of coke at the three stations, that does not regulate the price; at the Shoreditch station we get 8 *s.* and at another station 11 *s.* In my own neighbourhood, the Equitable are getting 10 *s.* for their coke. I think we are a little above them, that is within two miles.

3415. The price varies from week to week?—Yes; it may be just the opposite in another fortnight or three weeks.

3416. Those prices are per chaldron?—Yes.

3417. Now, with regard to the burners. The burners by which your gas is tested are the same now as they were when the Metropolis Gas Act was passed, are they not?—They are; the only difference being that the top is made of steatite, and in the other case it was made of iron; but the dimensions are nearly the same, or practically the same.

3418. The difference being that the steatite is a permanently new iron burner?—Yes.

3419. You have heard, I suppose, what Mr. Clemenshaw said about the leakage, and the labour attendant on the leakage in London, which he put at 1 *s.* per 1,000 feet?—All I can say is that we have no proof of that in London; the average in London is something like 4 *d.* for leakage.

3420. Is it the fact that you have any duplicate mains which could increase the actual leakage or escape of gas?—Not with regard to our own company. No; I think they were all taken up from time to time, as the opportunity offered.

3421. The gas has been cut off from all the duplicate pipes?—Yes.

3422. Now, in a large street, and, indeed, in nearly every street, you must have a pipe down each side?—Yes.

3423. Otherwise you would have to carry the service pipes across?—Yes.

3424. The leakage is much more connected with the service pipes than the mains, is it not?—Yes.

3425. Why is that?—From the decay of the wrought-iron pipes.

3426. The other being cast iron?—Yes.

3427. The small wrought-iron pipes oxidize much more rapidly than the mains?—Yes.

3428. You are one of the engineers who put his name to the statement of cost of producing 18 candle gas?—Yes.

3429. Will you just give me in detail the expenses of making 1,000 feet of gas according to your actual experience?—Are you speaking only of coal?

3430. Yes, of coal?—Taking the coal at the price of 16 *s.*, which is about the average, and the fuel for carbonising——

3431. Take one ton of coal at 16 *s.*, how much fuel is wanted to carbonise that?—About 12 bushels, representing 3 *s.* in Newcastle coal; 12 candle gas.

3432. We have 16 *s.* and 3 *s.* to put on one side of the account then, making a total of 19 *s.* as the cost of coal and fuel?—Yes.

3433. Will

Mr. *T. N. Kirkham.*

5 June 1867.

3433. Will you now go through the products?—The value of the products, namely, coke, tar, and ammoniacal liquor, is 10 *s.* 1 *d.*

3434. That agrees with the table which was put in signed by you?—Yes.

3435. That is founded on your actual experience of the making of the gas?—Yes.

3436. But that is directed to the making of 12 sperm candle gas?—Yes, 12 sperm candles.

3437. The gas which you actually make is not exclusively made of Newcastle coal, but it has an average of 8 per cent. of cannel?—Over 8 per cent.

3438. What difference would that make upon this table?—If I take it per candle, it amounts to 2·45 *d.*

3439. 2·45 *d.* per extra candle?—Per extra candle.

3440. Is this 12 candle gas taken as the production at the retort or the gas holder, or is it 12 candle gas tested at, say, 1,000 yards away?—This is 12 candle gas on the premises.

3441. As it comes out?—Yes.

3442. But you have made it, I believe, upwards of 14 candles?—Yes.

3443. And the cost to your company has been 2·45 *d.* per extra candle?—2·45 *d.*

3444. I may take it that with regard to this table you support per 12 candle gas all the items which are put here on both sides?—I do.

3445. We need not go into the question of what the product would be of a ton of Newcastle coal, but as a matter of fact hardly any gas engineer has put it above 9,500 cubic feet?—I believe that is so.

3446. And your experience confirms that?—Yes.

3447. Did you ever hear, as a practical matter, of 10,000 cubic feet of 15 candle gas being got out of a ton of Newcastle coal?—Never.

3448. Now we will go to the 18 candle table; that again, I take it, is gas issuing from the works?—Yes.

3449. Do you know Mr. Clemenshaw has suggested that half a ton of Wigan cannel and half a ton of Newcastle coal would produce the illuminating power which you require?—Yes.

3450. What do you think of that?—My practice says no.

3451. You know that Mr. Stevenson took it at 3-10ths Newcastle and 7-10ths cannel; does your experience lead you to the conclusion that it must be in the proportion of 3-4ths to 1-4th?—It does; it is Wigan cannel that I have been in the habit of using; I have used 70,000 or 80,000 tons within seven or eight years.

3452. What cannel is that?—We get it at Wigan.

3453. Where from?—From the Wigan district.

3454. You do not know what particular seam it is, but only that it is sold as Wigan coal in London?—Just so.

3455. The price is 27 *s.*, I believe?—That is the price at which it is delivered in London at the present time.

3456. Now, another point of attack of Mr. Clemenshaw's is as to fuel, "12 bushels at 3 *d.*, or 3 *s.*," whereas, on the other side, you show 15 bushels of Wigan at 5 *s.* a chaldron, which, he says, might have been better employed in the retort, while the Newcastle coke, which was represented by the 3*d.*, had better have been sold; now would the Wigan coke produce the same carbonising results as the Newcastle coal?—It would not.

3457. Do you agree with the witness yesterday, Mr. Brothers, who said that it took 12 bushels of Newcastle, and that it would take 24 bushels of Wigan coke to produce the same carbonising power?—My experience is, that when using Newcastle coke for carbonising the Newcastle coal we want about 33 per cent. of the coke produced; whereas with the Wigan coal, using Wigan coke, we want upwards of 50 per cent.; I have always found that to carbonise Newcastle coal with Wigan coke would be utterly impossible.

3458. That is to say, the gases are so much more difficult to dislodge that you must have a more intense heat?—The fuel from the Wigan coke is so inferior to the Newcastle coke.

3459. Is the Newcastle coal more difficult to distil than the Wigan cannel, assuming the question of heat there also?—It is.

3460. Wigan might suit better, or suit as well, for carbonising Wigan, but

Mr. *T. N. Kirkham.*

5 June 1867.

when you get any Newcastle coal, an additional difficulty arises with regard to the Wigan coke?—Yes.

3461. You think that you and all the other engineers were right in preferring to take 12 bushels of Newcastle coke at 3 *d.*, to adopting Mr. Clemenshaw's suggestion?—Yes, decidedly.

3462. You do not use Scotch cannel, I believe?—Very little; I have used Boghead, but it is some years ago now.

3463. Mr. Clemenshaw puts the tar down at 1 *s.* 5½ *d.* instead of 1 *s.* 3*d.*; what is your experience in that respect?—Our experience in London is very different from that; we did not get more than a 1 *d.* a gallon for our tar for some years.

3464. It is put down in your table as a 1¼ *d.*?—Yes.

3465. The breeze you would nearly agree about, and you agree about the liquor, therefore the principal difference would be with regard to the coke, which he would put down as worth 6 *s.* 2 *d.* as against 4 *s.* 7 *d.*?—Yes.

3466. Have you your own calculation before you?—Yes.

3467. Mr. Clemenshaw says, at page 45, half a ton of Newcastle coal at 16 *s.*, 8 *s.*; fuel, 12 bushels of Wigan coke at 5 *s.* per chaldron, 1 *s.* 4 *d.*; making together 1 *l.* 2 *s.* 10 *d.*;" on the credit side, "Wigan coke 1 *s.* 8 *d.*, Newcastle coke 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, tar 1 *s.* 5½ *d.*, breeze 2¼ *d.*, liquor 1¾ *d.*;" but do you adhere to the figures in your table?—Yes.

3468. For tar you get a 1 *d.* instead of a 1¼ *d.*?—We get a little more for the tar from a ton of Wigan coal than we do from a ton of Newcastle coal, and that would make the difference; I think, as a rule, they get 1½ *d.* a gallon for their tar.

3469. With regard to the total products of coke, I see in your table that 15 bushels are supposed to be supplied from three-fourths of a ton of Wigan cannel?—Yes, that is a very fair average.

3470. And you assume from a quarter of a ton of Newcastle coal 9 bushels?—Yes.

3471. The quantities we can easily calculate; you know what Mr. Bell, one of the witnesses for the Petitioner-promoters of this Bill, has said about the rise in money on each additional candle light; you put it at a fraction under 2½ *d.*?—Yes.

3472. He puts it at 1¾ *d.* to 2½ *d.*?—That is the mean; he says 1½ *d.* to 2 *d.*

3473. Have you made any calculation founded on that?—Yes.

3474. *Chairman.*] Do I understand you to be saying that, if we go from 14 to 18 candles, we may count 2½ *d.* as the scale per candle?—Yes; the scale will run from 12 candles to 20 candles, at 2½ *d.* per candle.

3475. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You gave your previous answer with regard to 12 candles up to 14?—Yes.

3476. Would they be more or less, in point of cost, as you got higher up to 20 candles?—There would be very little difference up to 20 candles.

3477. *Chairman.*] We may take it at from 12 candles to 20 candles?—You may take it at from 12 candles to 20 candles.

3478. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Now, that was taking the mean of Mr. Bell's cost, which would be 1¾ *d.* per candle?—Yes.

3479. The cost of coal per ton is put, by the engineers, per 18 candles, at what?—24·25 *s.*; Mr. Bell's charge for coal is 17·20 *s.*; but we add the difference in the price of coal to Mr. Bell's candle and a-half, and it comes out precisely what is estimated by the engineers.

3480. That is to say, the coal on which Mr. Bell proceeded was coal, at Rochdale, at 17 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton?—Yes.

3481. You took the cost per candle at 1¾ *d.*, and, applying the same calculation to 24 *s.* 3 *d.*, you find that you raise Mr. Bell's 1¾ *d.* to 2·46 *d.*?—Yes.

3482. You agree with him in principle; the only question is about the starting point in the cost of the coal?—Just so.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

3483. You gave us the price of coke as varying from 8 *s.* to 11 *s.* per chaldron?—Yes.

3484. Is

3484. Is that the highest price you ever got?—Oh, no; it depends on the season.

3485. What will it occasionally rise to?—12 *s.*

3486. Not more than that?—It has not been more than that, of late years, at my station.

3487. Do you sell it to the public as they come, or do you have contracts?—In some cases we have contracts.

3488. Persons who undertake to take so much, over a certain period?—Yes.

3489. Do they send for it?—We deliver it to them, or into their barges rather.

3490. Are those contracts of any duration?—Some are over six months, and some less, and some as much as twelve months.

3491. Do you sell to the public as they come for it?—Yes.

3492. Do I understand you to say that the price of coke in the metropolis does vary with the price of coal?—Not as a rule.

3493. Not when the price of coal is very high, say, for instance, as high as 28 *s.* or 30 *s.*?—My experience teaches me that the price of coke does not at all depend on the price of coal.

3494. Do you mean that the price to the public, or to individuals occasionally, would not be affected by the price of coal?—No, it would not.

3495. You would sell coke as cheap when the coal was dear as when it was cheap?—Yes; it all depends on the stock.

3496. *Chairman.*] Taking different years, suppose you have a year in which the price of coal is low, and another year in which it is high, will there be no difference in the average price of coke during those years?—It is no criterion at all; we pay 17 *s.* for coal, and we get on an average 8 *s.* 6 *d.* for coke; another year, when we are only paying 16 *s.* for coal, we get a higher price. It varies very much; we can make no rule.

3497. Mr. *Webster.*] Do you say that your contract prices do not vary?—They do vary according to the quantity that the person takes.

3498. But you vary your contracts which you make for a period at the same price?—Yes.

3499. Does the price vary in each contract; if a man took 1,000 tons a year, would it be at one price or varying prices?—It would be at varying prices, according to the quantity that he took.

3500. Suppose I took 1,000 tons a year over a period of seven years?—We do not enter into contracts for more than a year.

3501. Have you any table that shows the cost of material, less the residual products, during the last four or five years?—I have not.

3502. You have not for 1866, for instance; you gave us the quantity of gas made and the quantity of coal carbonised, but you cannot give us any information with regard to the corresponding quantities for the four preceding years?—No.

3503. Does your stock of coal vary very much?—Yes, with the season.

3504. But over a term of seven years, for instance, the stock of coke and the stock of coal would be pretty constant?—It all depends on the season.

3505. But on an average of years you are sometimes short of coal and sometimes you have a large stock?—Yes.

3506. The quantity of coal on hand and the quantity of coal bought during five years would be a pretty fair average, would it not?—It should average on five years.

3507. And the same with the residual products, I suppose?—Not with regard to the stock.

3508. You get rid of them as fast as you can?—Yes.

3509. You are sometimes short of coke, and sometimes very full of coke?—Yes.

3510. Can you tell us the comparative cost of management during five or six years, on an average?—No, it is not my department at all; I have nothing to do with the accounts; I merely make the gas.

3511. What is the principal element in the cost of manufacture distinguished from the cost of raw material; I mean the principal element of variation?—The price of coal.

3512. But I exclude the price of coal; excepting the price of the raw material,

Mr. *T. N. Kirkham.*

5 June 1867.

what is the principal element of variation in the cost of manufacture?—The residual products.

3513. I exclude that also; is there, then, any material element of variation in the cost of manufacture except the price of labour?—No; our labour has increased since the year 1860 to the extent of something like 25 per cent.; that is to say, on our carbonising the coal; mechanical labour has risen about 10 per cent.

3514. But severing the cost of the raw material, less the residual products, the one elememt of variation in the cost of manufacture is the price of labour, is it not?—Yes.

3515. There is no other?—None.

3516. Now, in the cost of distribution, is there any element of variation in successive years?—No.

3517. That may be taken as constant?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

3518. Have you been able to discover any principle in which the price of coke varies?—No.

3519. You are often surprised at the turn it takes, I suppose?—Yes, we are.

3520. Will you give me the price of coal in the year 1864?—In the year 1864 the price which we obtained for coke was 5 *s.* 6 *d.*

3521. What was the price of coal at that time?—15·91 *s.*; nearly 16 *s.*

3522. In the year 1865 your price of coal was about 16 *s.* again, was it not?—Yes.

3523. What was the price of coke?—We got 5 *s.* 5¾ *d.* for coke.

3524. In the year 1866 your price of coal was nearly 16 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Yes.

3525. And the coke per ton of coal was how much?—5 *s.* 1 *d.*

3526. Looking to your experience in the variation of prices, do you think, taking 9 *s.* for Newcastle coke, is taking a very fair price indeed?—Yes.

3527. You have been as high as 12 *s.*, you say, but often lower?—Yes.

3528. Mr. *Webster.*] One question with regard to the burner; does that diagram (*showing a diagram to the Witness*), with regard to the number of holes and the diameter, represent the old and the new burner; is there any difference in the diameter of the old and new burners?—There is not, according to my experience.

3529. Take the year 1860?—At that time, in the burner we were using the holes were No. 40, by the Birmingham wire gauge.

3530. Previous to 1860?—Previous and up to 1860, and since; that was an iron burner, with a pressure of two-tenths of an inch, showing an illuminating power of 16·38, and with a Sugg's burner of the same sized hole and the same pressure, we obtained 16·37; another experiment gave us 15·49 against 15·5.

3531. You have not been in the habit of using under the designation of the old burner, burners of less diameter than the old?—No, I do not know those burners.

3532. As between the burners in use previous to 1860 and the burners in use since 1860, do you know of a difference on the outside between them, one being 15-30ths of an inch and the other 15-20ths of an inch in diameter?—There are such burners, but we do not use them; I only speak of my own practical experience.

3533. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Is there any difference in the price of the manufacture of gas at the three stations of the Imperial Company?—No.

3534. It is much the same?—It is much about the same; there is a little difference in the price of coal, which would make a difference, but it is very small.

3535. Which is the cheapest?—Over a series of years they would come to very nearly the same.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Thomas Hersey,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Richards.*

Mr. *T. Hersey.*

3536. ARE you Chief Inspector of the Imperial Gas Company?—Yes.

3537. How long have you been so?—Fourteen years.

3538. Are you familiar with the position of the mains running throughout that district?—Quite so.

3539. Do

Mr. *T. Hersey.*

5 June 1867.

3539. Do you recollect the districting arrangement of 1857?—Yes.

3540. You remember that in the interchange made between the Imperial and the London Company, an interchange of mains was made?—Yes.

3541. How much did the Imperial receive from the London Company; how many miles of main?—Upwards of 70 miles.

3542. Were they valued previous to the exchange;—Yes, they were valued.

3543. What were they valued at as they lay there?—32,000 *l.* and odd.

3544. It was nearly 33,000 *l.* in the gross, was it not?—Yes.

3545. Do you know what value was set on those mains to be handed over by the Imperial to the London Company?—£. 16,000.

3546. The Imperial Company took from the London Company 72 miles of main at a cost of nearly 33,000 *l.*, and the Imperial ceded to the London Company about 16,000 *l.* in mains?—Yes.

3547. The balance in favour of the Imperial would be about 16,000 *l.*?—Yes.

3548. And the Imperial enjoyed the advantage of paying nothing for that balance?—Nothing at all.

3549. Have you taken up any of those London mains since the district became entirely lighted by the Imperial Gas Company?—Yes, we have taken up something like 10 miles.

3550. Have you left any mains in the whole of the district?—About a mile.

3551. Are they, containing gas, liable to leakage?—They are cut and left dead.

3552. Why do you not take them up?—They are not worth it.

3553. But I suppose, if an opportunity offered by any repaving of the streets, you would take them up?—Yes.

3554. It is your habit to do so, is it not?—It is.

3555. You took up about 10 miles, and you have taken over 72 miles?—Yes.

3556. With regard to those remaining, have you made use of them?—Yes, they are fully in use now.

3557. You have found that you require them on taking the district that the London Company formerly lighted?—We required them all.

3558. Have you found them in good condition?—Most of them were in very good condition.

3559. They are all sizes, 16-inch, 18-inch, and 20-inch mains?—Four or five mains would be as large as that, but the bulk of them are small, 6 inches and downwards.

3560. Are you of opinion that any mode of distribution could be adopted in your district better than the method now employed?—There is no possibility of it.

3561. With the exception of about a mile, there are no unoccupied mains lying idle in the district?—Just so.

3562. The Imperial Company received about 16,000 *l.* worth of mains, for which they paid nothing, as far as the capital account goes?—That is so.

3563. If the mains were taken up and removed, which would they be charged to, capital or revenue?—All the expenses have been charged to revenue.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Robert Harris,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

Mr. *R. Harris.*

3564. You are Engineer of the Great Central Gas Light and Coke Company?—Yes.

3565. Which is their district?—The district supplied by the Great Central Gas Company is the City of London.

3566. The whole of the City of London?—Yes, the whole of the City of London.

3567. How many years have you been engineer of that company?—For the last eight years.

3568. The company was incorporated in 1851, I believe?—Yes.

3569. When did they get their Act of Parliament?—In 1851, I believe.

3570. The company was formed in 1849, was it not?—Yes; they first applied to Parliament in the year 1849, I believe.

Mr. R. Harris. 3571. Your company has one station only?—Only one.

3572. That is at Bow Common, on the North London Railway?—Yes.

3 June 1867. 3573. That is a very convenient spot for the delivery of coals, is it not?—We consider so; we get our coals delivered from the ships on to the railway, and then they are delivered into our works.

3574. As a matter of fact the different stations in London vary very much, to the extent of 1*s.* to 2*s.*, in the price of coal, according to their situation in London?—I am hardly prepared to say, not knowing the method of delivery of the other companies.

3575. You were forced to place your works at a considerable distance from your point of supply, were you not; two miles from your first delivery?—Rather over two miles.

3576. That was with a view to placing your works away from the population?—I believe that was the motive, but that was before I was interested in the company.

3577. Bow Common is no longer an unpopulous place?—It is very nearly covered with buildings within the last few years.

3578. The company was started in opposition to the City of London and the Chartered Gas Company, was it not?—I believe so.

3579. You know nothing of its early history?—I do not.

3580. You make none but coal gas, I believe?—What is ordinarily called common gas.

3581. But you use cannel with the coal?—Yes, to a pretty considerable extent.

3582. In what proportion do you use it?—Last year it was 12½ per cent. of cannel.

3583. Giving it in tons, how much Newcastle coal did you use?—45,012 tons of Newcastle and 6,336 cannel.

3584. What is the total?—51,393 tons.

3585. Can you tell me how many cubic feet of gas you manufactured out of that quantity of coal?—I cannot tell exactly; it was somewhere between 9,200 and 9,300 cubic feet per ton.

3586. What quantity was made in gross?—The total quantity made was 472,556,000.

3587. What was the total quantity sold?—The total quantity sold was 389,443,800.

3588. What was the per-centage of unaccounted for gas?—17·16 per cent.; that was in the year 1866.

3589. The great majority of your mains date from the year 1849 or 1850?—1850, I presume, may be taken as the average age of them.

3590. To what do you attribute that per-centage of unaccounted for gas; how much is escape or leakage?—It is difficult to say what is absolutely the leakage proper as escaping from the pipes themselves; I attribute a large quantity of unaccounted for gas to the defective registration of the meters, and another large quantity to condensation in the mains.

3591. Having two miles to travel?—Yes, it is a very considerable distance.

3592. With regard to the leakage, in the proper sense of the word, have you any reason to suppose there is neglect or want of proper arrangement of pipes?—Not at all; our mains are, I believe, in a very fair condition, and in as good a condition as we can keep them. They are situated in very crowded thoroughfares, where there is excessive traffic, and that has a tendency to dislocate the mains more than in country towns or suburban districts.

3593. Now what is the quantity of gas sold per ton of coal?—7,577 cubic feet.

3594. And the difference between that and your total produce at the works is, how much?—I cannot give you the exact figure; the quantity made is between 9,200 and 9,300, the quantity delivered per ton being 7,577 cubic feet.

3595. What is the average illuminating power of the gas that you produce?—Where estimated?

3596. Estimated in the district, if you please?—For the last year it has averaged about 13·80 sperm candles.

3597. In

3597. In the district?—Yes, within the City, and the gas made at the works is higher than that.

3598. Have you been subject to an examination by a public officer?—Yes.

3599. Have you ever had the gas reported below 12 sperm candles in the district?—On one or two occasions we have had it reported; on one occasion notably as low as 11·60; but at times and seasons it is from 12½ to 12; the occasion I have referred to was the only time when I knew it to be below 12.

3600. What is the highest report that you have had from any of the inspectors?—I have not the highest report, but I think it would be some 16, probably the maximum.

3601. In the district?—Yes.

3602. Of course your 12½ per cent. of cannel is on an average of 12 months?—Yes.

3603. How high have you gone in an addition of cannel to coal?—I think as high as 20 per cent. in the winter time.

3604. What do you estimate to be the rise above 12 sperm candles at per candle of illuminating power?—I have not gone into that.

3605. I will go now to the questions of capital; what was your total capital expended up to the 31st December last?—£. 255,329.

3606. Can you give me the capital of the company per ton of coals carbonised?—£. 5. 3 *s.* 6 *d.*

3607. What were the total gas rents and receipts for residual products for the year 1866?—£. 100,673.

3608. And the total outlay was how much?—£. 78,608.

3609. During that year, was there any part for accidents and compensation?—It is included in the outlay of 78,608 *l.*

3610. What was the net profit?—For 1866, it was 22,065 *l.*

3611. To get a dividend of 10 per cent., would have required how much?—A dividend of 10 per cent. upon the share capital, and interest on the borrowed capital would have come to 23,300 *l.*

3612. Am I to understand that the capital which you have given as 255,329 *l.* 9 *s.* 7 *d.*, includes both share and loan capital?—Yes.

3613. Will you just distinguish them?—The called up share capital of the company is 200,000 *l.*; the share capital, and 66,000 *l.*, or one-third loan capital, that is all called up.

3614. Is it all expended?—No; the balance between the former figures is what we use as working capital.

3615. When speaking of capital expended, you mean in permanent works?—Yes.

3616. Have you only the difference between that and the 266,000 *l.* for working capital?—Yes.

3617. What was the average price that you paid for coal in 1865?—For Newcastle coal, 14 *s.* 6 *d.* a ton.

3618. And how much for cannel coal?—20 *s.* a ton.

3619. In 1866, how much did you pay?—15 *s.* 5 *d.* for Newcastle coal, and 21 *s.* for cannel coal.

3620. What cannel coal do you get?—Principally Leeswood cannel, which is produced in Wales.

3621. Welsh cannel?—Yes.

3622. When used by itself, what will it produce in illuminating power?—Something like 21 candle gas, as I estimate it.

3623. That is the highest, you think, that can be extracted from it?—Practically it is.

3624. How many cubic feet per ton?—About 9,500.

3625. Do you know anything of the field of the Leeswood cannel?—I do not.

3626. I believe that the difference of price in those two articles has increased your working expenses, and in 1866 by upwards of 2,000 *l.*?—It did.

3627. Have you found that the price of the residual products has risen with the price of the coal and the cannel?—The price of the residual products bears no relation to the price of coals at all.

3628. Have you a steady demand for coke?—A fluctuating demand.

Mr. *R. Harris.*

5 June 1867.

3629. In demand and in price?—Yes; as the demand increases the price invariably rises, and *vice versâ*.

3630. At the time of the passing of the Act of 1860; or can you give me your dividends now from the commencement?—I cannot.

3631. Do you know what they paid in 1860?—I do not.

3632. Or what back dividends they were entitled to?—I know that they were entitled to some back dividends, but the amount I cannot say.

3633. In such an article as breeze do you find a very great variation?—Yes, a very great variation, this year especially; the variation in the price of breeze last year with us was 6 *s.* a chaldron, and this year I cannot make any contracts at all.

3634. It depends, does it not, upon the building trade?—Yes, and the brick-making trade entirely.

3635. Do you know anything of the controversy between the Corporation of the City of London and your company upon the subject of the price of gas?—I know that there was a deal of correspondence between the company and the Corporation, but I am not acquainted with the details of it.

3636. You have belonged to the Company eight years?—Yes.

3637. That question did not arise in 1861, and you took no part in the discussions?—It was entirely apart from my special avocation.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

3638. You had a very bad fire in Wood-street, had you not?—We had.

3639. And the damages, I believe, against you were 25,000 *l.* with 10,000 *l.* costs?—The damages, I believe, were set at 25,000 *l.*; as to costs I cannot speak.

3640. You are aware that the Committee of 1866 referred to that in their Report?—Yes.

3641. It is a fact, is it not, that it was paid out of money that would have otherwise gone to dividends?—Yes; it was paid out of monies which were received for the sale of gas.

3642. Can you account for the fact, that you are getting your coal at this time at a lower rate than other companies in London; you heard what was stated by other witnesses, but your figure is lower; how can you account for that?—I do not think there is much difference as to the common coal.

3643. I mean the cannel coal?—As to that, there are two circumstances that I think will account for it; the first is, that we are directly on the North London Railway, which is a branch from the North Western, and we get the trucks direct from the colliery into our works without any transhipment; and another cause, and the principal one, is that the cannel we use is of an inferior description to what has been called the Wigan cannel.

3644. Twenty-one power is your coal?—Yes.

3645. That is how you account for the difference?—That is what I presume to be the cause of the difference; I know of no other reason.

3646. Do you know of any other reason why the other companies should not have got cannel coal at the same price as you do, except the fact of the railway carriage being cheaper?—I do not know of any other.

3647. Can you tell me what the actual profits in the year 1866 were on your expended capital, or were not the profits in 1866 upon the expended capital actually 15¾ per cent.?—I have it not so.

3648. Upon your expended capital, I say; but, first, what is the difference between your expended capital and your authorised capital, to begin with?—Our authorised capital is 266,000 *l.*, and our capital absolutely expended in permanent works is 255,329 *l.*

3649. There has been a sum of 11,000 *l.* called up quite lately, has there not?—There has been a call within the last two or three years; I cannot give you the date of it.

3650. Am I right in saying this, that the profits in 1866 upon that expended capital were no less than 15¾ per cent.?—I should say that it is not correct; the profits in 1866 were 5 per cent. upon the loan capital, and 9 or 9½ per cent. upon the share capital.

3651. That is all?—Yes.

3651.* As it appears by the published accounts?—Yes.

3652. I believe

Mr. *R. Harris.*

5 June 1867.

3652. I believe this company was originally a consumer's company?—Originally, I believe so.

3653. Were you not supplying gas at 4 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet until the Act of 1860 was passed?—Yes.

3654. When that Act was passed, you took advantage of that Act, and raised your price to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*?—It was raised in 1861 to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

3655. What had the gas works been earning before that per annum?—I cannot tell you.

3656. You gave Mr. Crowle a large amount for compensation, did you not?—I believe there was an award on arbitration to him, but that was before my connection with the company.

3657. Is that represented as part of the capital of the company now?—I cannot say, but I believe not.

3658. One question as to the residual products: do they vary from time to time; and may I take it that on an average of five or seven years they are very much about the same as to the cost of the raw material?—Not at all; I consider that they have no relation whatever.

3659. On the average of five or seven years, do you find per annum that the per-centage of the value of the residual products is about the same?—Do you mean the actual value of the residual products?

3660. Yes?—Possibly it may be so, but it does not bear any relation to the cost of the coals.

3661. Can you account for the difference in the value of the residual products in 1866, it being greater than the value in 1865 in the case of the Imperial Company?—Certainly not; I know nothing about that.

Re-examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

3662. I suppose if there was more coal used, that might suggest a reason?—No doubt of it.

3663. What is the coke-producing power of the Welsh cannel?—We produce something like eight sacks of coke per ton of coals.

3664. What is that coke worth?—We do not sell it by itself; but I estimate the value of it at, perhaps, 6 *s.* or 7 *s.* a chaldron; 6 *s.*, perhaps, is the outside.

3665. What is the greatest quality of Welch cannel that you ever got at one time?—Over what period?

3666. In any one contract?—We generally make our contract for 2,000 tons.

3667. Is it used anywhere else in London for gas purposes?—I do not know, but I believe it is not.

3668. Are there any agents for it in London?—We buy it from an agent in London.

3669. You say, if I understand you rightly, that its maximum illuminating power is 21 candles?—I take it to be that.

3670. Have you ever tested it?—Yes.

3670*. For results of that kind?—Yes; for illuminating power by itself, and mixed with other coal in the ordinary manufacture.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We have one or two witnesses, Sir, to call on the coal question; if you will allow us to take them now, I will examine them very shortly.

Chairman.] Certainly.

George Elliott, Esq., was sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

G. Elliott, Esq.

3671. You know, I believe the cannel coal district?—I do.

3672. Do you find in what are called the Wigan cannel fields very considerable differences in the coal, or are they to be taken as having an average illuminating power?—The cannel varies in its illuminating power, but generally I think, perhaps, there is less difference in the properties there than in other parts of the country.

3673. What proportion does the total output at present of the cannel field

G. Elliott, Esq.

5 June 1867.

bear to the whole of the kingdom?—I consider that the proportion of cannel coal raised in England is not more, or but little more, than 1 or 1½ per cent. of the entire product of coal, taking the United Kingdom.

3674. I believe you have had particular means of knowing, from having been on the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the subject?—Yes; that is a part of the subject with which we were particularly engaged upon the Commission.

3675. That is used almost exclusively, I believe, for gas making?—I think there is about perhaps a fourth, or something like 20 per cent., used for oil making.

3676. For light making as distinguished from heat making?—Yes; in fact, it is all for light.

3677. There is cannel in the Durham district too, is there not?—Yes; I have some cannel in some of my collieries in Durham, but it is not in a very large quantity.

3678. I suppose its per-centage upon the general Durham supply would be very small?—Yes, very small; I am sure that the proportion in Durham would not be a quarter per cent. of the whole product of Durham.

3679. Do you know anything of the Welsh cannel?—Yes; I have a colliery there in which there is cannel.

3680. What per-centage does it bear to the general coal yield of Wales?—I should think it is almost infinitesimal; the seams there are very thick; that is, the other coal seams; they pervade over a very great district.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] I do not know, Sir, how far my learned friend is at liberty to go into the question as to the supply of cannel; my learned friend generally does not put questions without a point.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] What is there in the question? Perhaps the short-hand writer will be good enough to read it.

(*The last Question and Answer were read.*)

Mr. *Rodwell.*] I do not object to the question; but the question is, how far my learned friend is to go?

Chairman.] I think you quite understand, on both sides, what has been already said; that the Committee will take facts as to the actual price and supply of coal and cannel; but that they will not enter into a speculative inquiry as to the future; it is not the question referred to us.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] That is all that I wish for, Sir; I have nothing to ask the witness.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Richards.*] I have a witness here, Sir, who is a large coal owner in the North of England. He comes to speak to the gradual rise in the price of coal which has taken place, and which he anticipates will continue to take place.

Chairman.] We shall adhere to our rule, and I shall stop the first question which appears to me to transgress it.

Mr. *William Stobart* was sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Richards*.

Mr. *W. Stobart.*

3681. ARE you the Managing Owner of the Wearmouth Colliery, in Durham?—I am.

3682. Do you supply large quantities of gas coal to the London market?—Very considerable quantities.

3683. Has the price of gas coal, of late, risen in the market?—Yes, it has.

3684. Is it, in your opinion, likely to continue to rise?—I think it is.

Mr. *Rodwell* stated that he had no question to put to the witness.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *George Thomas Halls* was sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Hope Scott*.

Mr. G. T. Halls.

5 June 1867

3685. You are Engineer and Manager, I believe, of the Salford Corporation Gas Works?—I am.

3686. For how many years have you held that office?—Rather over eight.

3687. I believe you have had experience in the manufacture of gas, both of a high and low illuminating power?—I have.

3688. What is the average illuminating power of the Salford gas?—Twenty candles.

3689. How has it been tested?—It has been tested by Dr. Angus Smith.

3690. What burner does he use?—No. 3 pot burner, a fishtail burner; No. 3 pot.

3691. He does not use the Argand burner?—Not for cannel.

3692. In order to produce the illuminating power of gas, what coal or cannel do you use?—We use about one-seventh of coal, mixed with cannel, in the summer time, and frequently in the winter we discontinue using coal altogether.

3693. Is it the Wigan cannel that you use?—About four-fifths of it are Wigan cannel, and the remainder comes from the neighbourhood of Wigan.

3694. In mid-winter you are obliged to dismiss the coal altogether?—Yes.

3695. When you speak of the illuminating power being equal to 20 candles, is that as tested at your works?—The average illuminating power there is about 21, in order to ensure 20 candle gas to the town, but at times we are below that considerably.

3696. The cannel yields more, of course, when taken and used quite alone?—It yields, on an average, about 10,500 cubic feet to a ton.

3697. In illuminating power from cannel only, what is it?—About 22 candle gas.

3698. Now the coal; what is the yield?—About 9,000 cubic feet to a ton.

3699. Not more than that?—Not for the coal that we use.

3700. Where does it come from?—About 9 miles or 9½ miles from Salford, on the Wigan coal field, from a place called Hulton; it is Lancashire coal.

3701. It would not be higher than 9,000 cubic feet per ton, with an illuminating power of how many candles?—Twelve candles.

3702. You have read, I believe, the evidence of Mr. Heron?—I have; I have seen the report.

3703. Have you tried the mixture that is mentioned?—I have repeatedly.

3704. With what results?—About from 15 to 16 candle gas.

3705. I suppose you tried to get as much as you could out of it?—Certainly.

3706. But without success beyond from 16 to 17 candle?—That, I think, is a fair average.

3707. Have you read the evidence of Mr. Cleminshaw?—I have.

3708. He says, "One half of Wigan cannel and one half of Newcastle coal will produce 19½ candle gas?—Yes, I have read that.

3709. Do you agree with him?—I do not.

3710. You do not think that that can be done?—I could not do it.

3711. Have you any means of knowing exactly what the Manchester does produce in illuminating power when it is tested?—I have not, not of my own particular knowledge.

3712. What is the cost of cannel in your works?—It averages 5 *d.* and 6 *d.* a ton; it is 15 *s.* 1 *d.* at one station, and 15 *s.* 11 *d.* at the other.

3713. Making a difference in Salford of 10 *d.* a ton, according to the place of delivery?—Yes.

3714. That is under contract?—Yes, under a contract made two years ago.

3715. How much higher is your previous contract than that?—On the Wigan cannel it is an advance of 2 *s.*, and on the Hulton cannel it is an advance of 3 *s.*

3716. What does the common coal cost you per ton?—11 *s.* 9 *d.* delivered.

3717. Is that under contract?—Yes.

3718. An old one or a new one?—It is a contract of 12 months standing

Mr. G. T. Halls.

5 June 1867.

3719. Was it averaged on the previous one?—We never contracted for coal before; we use but a small quantity.

3720. Mr. Cleminshaw seems to have thought that the carriage of coal to London and to Manchester was about the same; how much of the prices you have given are due from the conveyance of the pit to the company's works?—By the old London and North Western Line it was 1 *s.* 10 *d.*, but since the opening of the new line I believe it is 1 *s.* 7 *d.* a ton; I speak now of cannel, but I believe the rate is the same for cannel and for coal.

3721. What is the charge for taking it to London?—I do not know; one is about 200 miles, and the other about 19.

3722. The coal that you at present mix with the cannel is a new experiment of yours, is it not?—We have used it for about 18 months.

3723. Before that, what did you use?—We used all cannel, raised by the Wigan Coal and Iron Company.

3724. What induced you to change your plan?—The upward tendency is in the price of cannel, the advance in the price, and the difficulty of getting it.

3725. How many miles are you from it?—Seventeen miles.

3726. I suppose you give your orders pretty early?—We contract for a three years' supply.

3727. With that, have you great difficulty in getting cannel supplied to you?—Yes; last winter, and before that, we were frequently as low in our supply as to have only a six hours' supply.

3728. How do you account for that?—I have been to Wigan repeatedly, and they have told me that I must take my chance with the rest, and that many were in a worse position than I was, and that they had large orders in hand.

3729. Do you suppose that the output is wilfully restricted, or that it arises from difficulties which they have with the miners?—I believe that they were over ordered, over contracted.

3730. And that was so for two years running?—Yes, we were in that position for that time.

3731. Before those two years, do you remember anything of the kind occurring?—No, we were far better off before; I can remember one case in which we were short in a severe frost; that was six years ago.

3732. Until within the last two years, you had no difficulty in getting cannel, and enough to make gas for your whole consumption, but within the last two years you have had both a rise in price and great difficulty in getting cannel?—Yes.

3733. What is the per-centage of your leakage of gas at Salford?—Twelve per cent. on an average of three years.

3734. By the *Committee.*] That is for leakage?—Yes; it is the difference between the gas sold and the gas made.

3735. At what date were the gas works of the Salford Corporation established?—It is an old date; 30 years ago, I should think.

3736. What is your view as to the difference in the amount of gas made and the amount of gas sold?—The greatest portion, I think, must be from condensation.

3737. What is the greatest distance that the gas travels in a main?—In a straight line for about 9½ miles.

3738. Now, as to the cost of manufacture at Salford; taking your 20 candle gas, on the average of course, how much is it for cannel, and how much for coal?—The average is about 1 *s.* 4½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

3739. Including what you use for carbonising the fuel?—Yes; that is on the gas sold.

3740. What are your products per 1,000 cubic feet sold?—About 6¼ *d.*

3741. Making, as far as fuel is concerned, the deductions of those products, if I understand you rightly, 10¼ *d.*?—Yes.

3742. How much for manufacture and management?—1 *s.* 1½ *d.*

3743. And for depreciation, how much?—3 *d.*, making a total of 2 *s.* 2¾ *d.*

3744. How do you manage that in the Salford accounts; is that charge an annual charge for depreciation?—We are allowed by the Act of 1862 to set by any sum not exceeding 3 per cent.

3745. And

3745. And that you regularly do?—That we do.

3746. You have, I suppose, a redemption fund?—Yes, we have a sinking-fund.

3747. How much do you put to that?—It is one-thirtieth, I think.

3748. By the *Committee.*] These gas works are the property of the rate-payers of Salford?—Yes; I see it is one-fortieth.

3749. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] That is not included in anything you have given us yet?—No, it is not.

3750. One-fortieth of what?—I should explain that the capital must be paid off in 40 years, the original capital.

3751. What was that original capital?—I cannot say; we were borrowing and re-borrowing.

3752. By the *Committee.*] If you will say what was paid off last year, that will give it us?—At the present time, the capital is about 150,000 *l.*

3753. Actually employed?—Yes.

3754. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] You have nothing to show what that capital was originally, and how it has been dealt with since?—No.

3755. Is there anything in the Salford management which attributes to any given amount of capital the dividends?—No; money is borrowed in the market at a certain rate per cent.

3756. Nothing is charged except what is necessary to pay that interest and the annual expenditure to the sinking fund, and for depreciation?—Yes; the whole balance of profit goes to the town.

3757. By the *Committee.*] Is there an improvement fund to which you carry the profit?—It is divided.

3758. Can you show how much was divided?—I can; 8,340 *l.* 1 *s.* 1 *d.* was the profit divided among the districts last year.

3759. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Treating the districts like shareholders?—Yes; there are are three, Salford Proper, Pendleton, and Broughton.

3760. It was upon the union of those districts that certain proportions were settled?—Yes.

3761. What was the rate paid upon your bonds?—The present average is from $4\frac{1}{4}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$.

3762. On the 150,000 *l.*?—Yes, about that.

3763. We can get the original capital, I think, from the sinking fund; what is the figure given for the sinking fund?—We cannot get at that; Salford township proper has an annuity of 2,500 *l.*, which represents 50,000 *l.* a year.

3764. Settled upon its marriage with the other townships?—Settled on Salford Proper.

3765. By the *Committee.*] Have you anything to the credit of the depreciation fund?—Yes; the depreciation fund now is between 4,000 *l.* and 5,000. *l.*

3766. Have you anything to the credit of the sinking fund?—I cannot at present say what that is; we have been borrowing a large quantity of money lately.

3767. Those accounts, I presume, are published in Salford, and are matters of public knowledge?—Yes, they are.

3768. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] What we want is not in the account, is it?—No, it is not.

Chairman.] You know, I think, what we want to enable us to make the calculation from afterwards.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] And I want it myself.

Witness.] There is no difficulty in getting it.

3769. What are your prices for gas?—3 *s.* 4 *d.* within the borough.

3770. Upon how much gas?—We sell within the borough 207,335,175 cubic feet.

3771. In the other districts, at what rate do you sell it?—Within a radius of five miles it is a 4 *s.* rate, and we sell 24,214,116 cubic feet.

3772. And for a farther distance what is the rate?—Beyond that radius it is 4 *s.* 8 *d.*, and we sell 2,375,589 cubic feet.

Mr. *G. T. Halls.*

5 June 1867.

3773. What do you charge for the supply of lamps in the borough?—3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet.

3774. Consuming how much?—Two and a-half cubic feet per hour.

3775. Public lamps within the borough?—17,772,333.

3776. Are you giving the figures for last year?—Yes, up to the month of June.

3777. What do you charge for lamps outside the borough?—4 *s.*; and the consumption is 1,372,700 cubic feet.

3778. Burning at the same rate per hour?—That is variable; two and a-half and three feet.

3779. As to the prices of material at Salford; what is the cost of your retorts there per lineal foot?—About 3 *s.*; that is our contract price now; we have had them as low as 2 *s.* 10 *d.*

3780. What is the price in London?—I think it runs from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 5 *s.* 6 *d.*

3781. What do fire-bricks cost at Salford?—60 *s.* and 65 *s.*; laid down in the yard per 1,000.

3782. What do they cost in London?—I am not in a position to say; I am told that they cost from 75 *s.* to 100 *s.*

3783. Have you both materials for your retorts and fire bricks close to Salford?—No; the fire-bricks are within six miles, and the materials for the retorts are within a radius of 17 or 18 miles.

3784. Do you find that the price of coke rises with the price of coal?—Not with the price of gas coal.

3785. Does it vary with other kinds of coal?—What affects the coke with us is the rise in the price of household coal; if that goes up, then the price of coke goes up; it does not go necessarily up in price with gas coal.

3786. Do the other residual products rise in proportion to the price of coal?—All our residual products are falling very rapidly indeed.

3787. How much have they fallen in a year or two?—Tar was at 32 *s.*, it is now 19 *s.* 6 *d.*; ammoniacal water has fallen 50 per cent.

3788. I suppose your residual products have a direct reference to the manufacturing processes carried on at Salford?—Yes, they are all manufactured within a radius of four or five miles from the works.

3789. Such a thing as a new dye may affect very much the price of your residual products?—That is what affected the price of tar.

3790. From the dye not standing?—Yes, from the dye not standing it sent tar down in the market wonderfully; the aniline dye.

3791. What is the price of coke now?—10 *s.* a ton.

3792. What are the extreme points of the fluctuations?—From 5 *s.* to 10 *s.*

3793. Is it ever over 10 *s.*?—I never knew it so.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster*.

3794. It is now at its maximum?—Yes.

3795. How long have you been connected with the Salford Gas Works?—For rather over eight years.

3796. I believe you were in Devonport previously to that?—No.

3797. How long have you practised as a gas engineer?—For 15 or 16 years.

3798. Had you been anywhere else before you came to Salford?—Yes; my first appointment was at Bridgewater, in Somersetshire.

3799. What was the total quantity of coal that was carbonised into gas in Salford in the last year?—Up to the month of June last, 26,350 tons 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

3800. Is that cannel?—There is a small quantity of coal there, not one-seventh.

3801. At what cost was that?—2 *s.* 2¾ *d.*; it is an average of 2 *s.* 2¾ *d.*

3802. Have you not got the total amount of money there?—Not in this report; it would take me a little time to separate it for you.

3803. What was the total cost of this number of tons of coal you have given us; what was paid for cannel, delivered at the works in Salford?—£17,312 15 *s.* 11 *d.*

3804. What

Mr. *G. T. Halls.*

5 June 1867.

3804. What was received for the residual products in that year?—£. 6,619 19 *s.* 5 *d.*

3805. What gas was made with that?—289,356,000, as registered by the station meter.

3806. And was the unaccounted for about 12 per cent.?—I will give you the figures, if you wish for them.

3807. You had better do so?—The gas sold was 253,069,913; consumed at the two stations, 1,748,100; gas supplied gratuitously to Trinity Church clock, 230,700; Saint Philip's, 369,700; Saint Thomas's, 193,900.

3808. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Have you any distinct figures for escape?—The difference between what we can account for and what we sell is 12 per cent.

3809. Mr. *Webster.*] What is the cost of the manufacture at Salford?—About 2 *s.* 2¾ *d.*

3810. Give me the amount from the report?—I find that the total charge in the revenue account is 31,173 *l.* 14 *s.* 4 *d.*

3811. As the cost of manufacture?—That is the total amount in this report on the revenue account.

3812. Can you tell me the cost of manufacture as distinguished from the cost of the raw material, deducting the cost of the raw material and the cost of management?—I cannot; it is all together here.

3813. The materials there do not enable you to distinguish the cost of management and the cost of distribution?—Yes, they would do so by taking them out.

3814. Have you the preceding report?—No; I have 1865 and 1866.

Re-examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

3815. You gave us the figures for "consumed at works," 1,748,000, I think?—1,748,100.

3816. That is to be added to the 12 or 12½ per cent., is it not?—No, that is included in the 12½ per cent.; we have a meter at both of the stations to register the quantity of gas that we consume on the works.

[The Witness withdrew.

Dr. *William Odling,* was sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Richards.*

Dr. *W. Odling.*

3817. You are a Fellow of the Royal Society, and Professor of Chemistry at St. Bartholomew's Hospital?—Yes.

3818. You are lecturer on chemistry at St. Bartholomew's Hospital?—I am.

3819. Have you for sometime had considerable experience in testing the illuminating power of gas?—Yes.

3820. Have you tested gas for almost all the metropolitan companies, and also for local authorities?—In some cases on behalf of companies, and on other occasions for local authorities.

3821. Have you tested the illuminating power of gas for provincial companies as well?—Yes.

3822. Did you, with Mr. Wood, the engineer to the Hastings Gas Company, and Mr. Sugg, gas apparatus engineer, go down to Manchester and make a careful examination of the illuminating power of gas supplied there on Thursday and Friday last, the 29th and 30th of May?—Yes, I did.

3823. Did you make 12 experiments, each of them consisting of 10 observations?—Yes.

3824. Can you give me the details of each of those experiments so made?—Yes; I have the details here of every experiment.

3825. You made 12 experiments, each consisting of 10 observations, and you employed the ordinary Bunsen photometer?—Yes, the ordinary disc photometer, sometimes the form of instrument that was arranged by Dr. Letheby, and sometimes the form that was arranged by Mr. Evans, and which are commonly known as Letheby's photometer and Evans' photometer.

Dr. *W. Odling.*

5 June 1867.

3826. The burner was a batswing burner, such as is ordinarily used in London for testing cannel gas?—Yes; and here it is (*producing the same*), as defined in the Metropolis Gas Act.

3827. Will you be good enough to state what the mean illuminating power of all your several experiments resulted in?—The mean of all the 12 experiments, gave an illuminating power of 18·38 sperm candles, burning at the rate of 120 grains per hour.

3828. I will call your attention to an answer given by Mr. Joseph Heron, at Question 496: the Chairman says, "The power at Manchester is 21 sperm candles, is it not?" to which the answer is "Yes"; and also at Question 611, in Mr. Clemenshaw's examination, Mr. Grove says, "What is the illuminating power; is it the same at both places?" to which the answer is, "Liverpool supplies cannel gas I should say at the same illuminating power as at Manchester. What is that? Manchester is from 22 to 23 candles." That does not answer to your experiments?—No, we found that the mean of the 12 experiments was 18·38 sperm candles.

3829. Where were those testings made?—At the house of a surgeon in Stretton-street.

3830. How far was that place from the works?—From a half to three-quarters of a mile.

3831. Were all the experiments made with every care and precaution?—Yes; they were made with every care and precaution.

3832. Have you made experiments upon the productive power of cannel coals and Newcastle coals?—Yes; I have been engaged in such inquiries at different times, and I have taken part in such experiments.

3833. Have you formed any opinion as to the possibility of supplying London with an uniform supply of 18 candle gas?—No, I have not.

3834. The result of your experiments made at Manchester was an illuminating power of 18·38 sperm candles?—Yes.

3835. You have the details, I believe?—Yes, I have a summary of the experiments, and a detail of each experiment.

3836. I believe I may take it that they varied from 19·71, the highest, to 16·19?—16·70; there is a slight inaccuracy there.

3837. The first of these was taken, I believe, at half-past eight in the evening?—Yes.

3838. Then you took them through that night and the next day, and the 16·70, the lowest, was taken at 11 o'clock the following night?—Yes; there are one or two slight errors in the second place of the decimals.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

3839. When did you make these experiments?—They were made on the 29th and 30th of May, last Thursday and Friday.

3840. For the purpose of this inquiry?—Yes; the experiments were made in conjunction with Mr. Wood, the engineer to the Hastings Gas Works, and Mr. Sugg, the well-known gas apparatus maker.

3841. Was there anyone else present?—Yes; during part of the time the surgeon, in whose house the experiments were made, and his partner were present from time to time.

3842. Did they take any part in the examination?—No.

3843. You and the two gentlemen you have named had it all to yourselves?—Quite so.

3844. No notice was given to anyone down there to attend to check your experiments?—Nothing of the kind.

3845. Have you brought the batswing burner?—Yes, here it is (*handing it to the learned Counsel*).

3846. Is this a fishtail or a batswing?—It is a batswing.

3847. Was it with this that you made your experiments?—Yes, it was.

3848. I see that some of these are made differently?—The principle of all these photometers is the same; but there is a little difference in the mechanical construction; of the two forms most commonly used, one is Dr. Letheby's, and the other is Mr. Evans'.

3849. Have you got a photometer there?—No; I have the discs.

3850. What

3850. What was the length of the beam?—The beam in Dr. Letheby's photometer was 60 inches; in Mr. Evans' photometer there is no beam, but the length of the photometer was, I think, 50 inches.

3851. Are they not usually made 100?—Yes; when they are made fixtures they are made 100; but when made moveable, they are made shorter.

3852. In testing houses, they are usually made 100, are they not?—No; I should say that the ordinary form of Mr. Evans' photometer is 100, but the invariable form of Dr. Letheby's photometer is 60 inches, and that is the most used of all.

3853. What is the pattern of their burner, or is there any burner deposited in any place that you took it from?—I do not know; but, so far as I remember, in the Metropolis Gas Act it is described to be a batswing or fishtail. I think they allow of both burning 5 cubic feet an hour.

3854. Is that the only difference there is between them, the number of inches?—I think so.

3855. Were the lights of the photometer enclosed or not?—In Mr. Evans' photometer the lights were enclosed; in Dr. Letheby's photometer they were open to the air.

3856. Are you aware that chemists have entertained a strong objection to a photometer with enclosed lights?—I am not.

3857. Dr. Leeson and others?—I do not think that Dr. Leeson has made any photometrical experiments for the last 20 years.

3858. Do you know that he has not done so?—I think I may say that I have that knowledge; I do not mean to say that I know it as a positive fact.

3859. Might I ask you how far the candles were removed from the sides of the box?—I really cannot say, in the case where the box was used, how far.

3860. How far in the other case?—I should say about four inches.

3861. Are you aware that Mr. William Thomas Brand, Mr. John Thomas Cooper Leeson, and Mr. Thomas Graham all recommend that the flame of the gas or candle should be not less than five feet removed from the side of a darkened chamber?—I am quite aware of that, but those are experiments not made in a box at all, but in a room.

3862. The side of your box has a reflecting surface, to a certain extent, has it not, when you use it?—I suppose that one cannot say that the whole of the light is absorbed; a minute portion is rejected.

3863. It is a reflecting surface in the room where you use it; the wall is a reflecting surface?—I beg pardon, those experiments were made some years ago when the photometer was first introduced. Mr. Graham, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Brand made the experiments simply in a room, and they recommended that the candle should not be stuck too close to the wall; the experiments to which objection is made are made in a box, and means are taken to prevent reflection.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

3864. Your observations were made with all due care and attention?—With every care and attention that I could bestow upon the experiments, as also by Mr. Wood and Mr. Sugg.

[*The following Report was handed in:—*]

5 June 1867.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

REPORT of the TESTINGS of ILLUMINATING POWER of the GAS at *Manchester*, by Dr. *Odling*, Mr. *Wood*, and Mr. *Sugg*.

Number of Experiments.	Date.	Time.	Instrument Employed.	Grains of Sperm Candles Consumed in 10 Minutes.	Results.
1	29 May 1867 - -	8.30 p.m. -	Letheby -	38·75	19·71
2	Ditto - - -	9.15 „ -	Evans -	40·03	19·54
3	Ditto - - -	11.0 „ -	Ditto -	40·02	18·35
4	Ditto - - -	11.30 „ -	Letheby -	39·25	18·20
5	30 May - - -	12.30 noon. -	Evans -	41·25	18·15
6	Ditto - - -	1.0 p.m. -	Ditto -	39·75	18·08
7	Ditto - - -	3.0 „ -	Ditto -	45·00	18·00
8	Ditto - - -	5.30 „ -	Ditto -	39·50	18·46
9	Ditto - - -	6.0 „ -	Ditto -	40·00	19·00
10	Ditto - - -	7.45 „ -	Ditto -	42·50	18·48
11	Ditto - - -	9.45 „ -	Ditto -	41·50	17·94
12	Ditto - - -	11.0 „ -	Ditto -	40·25	16·69
				TOTAL - - -	220·60
				(Number of Experiments, 12.)	
				Average - - -	18·38

TWELVE EXPERIMENTS.

Highest - - - - - - - -	19·71
Lowest - - - - - - - -	16·70
Average - - -	18·38

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Alfred Wood*, was sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Richards*.

Mr. *A. Wood.*

5 June 1867.

3865. ARE you Gas Manager at Hastings and St. Leonards?—Yes.

3866. Did you accompany the last witness, Dr. Odling, and Mr. Sugg, to Manchester on the days that Dr. Odling mentioned?—Yes.

3867. Were you present when the experiments were there made?—Yes, during the whole time.

3868. Have you heard the evidence given by Dr. Odling?—Yes.

3869. Do you corroborate the evidence he has given?—Yes.

3870. Do you agree with him that the testings were fairly and properly made?—Nothing could be more delicate.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster*.

3871. Have you ever examined the Manchester gas at any previous time?—I have not.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *William Thomas Sugg*, was sworn; and Examined by Mr. *Richards*.

Mr. *W. T. Sugg.*

3872. YOU are a Manufacturer of Gas Apparatus, Burners, and so forth?—Yes.

3873. And you have been so for some time?—Yes.

3874. Did you go with the last witness, Dr. Odling, and Mr. Wood, down to Manchester on the 29th and 30th of May last?—Yes, I did.

3875. Were you present when Dr. Odling made some experiments to test the illuminating power of the gas?—I was present during the time when all the experiments were made.

3876. Are you, as the maker of gas apparatus, frequently present at the testing of gas?—Yes, very frequently.

3877. Do you corroborate Dr. Odling as to the result of those testings?—I do.

3878. Were those testings made with all possible care and accuracy?—Yes, they were the best possible tests that could be made; in the case of this particular testing, the candles burned very nearly 120 grains every time; it is an exceptional case, for I happen to have had a set of candles which came very nearly to the Parliamentary standard, and it is but rarely that they do; I consider the experiments that were made to be the best experiments that could be made.

3879. Can you state whether the burner you used was the burner in general use?—It was the burner that is used to test the cannel gas supplied to these houses, and generally the cannel gas that is supplied throughout London.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley*.

3880. Did you test the illuminating power of your candles before going to Manchester?—That would have been impossible, because if we had burned the candles we could not have used them there.

3881. You might have used a portion of them for testing their illuminating power in one place, and then afterwards used the other portion of them for testing the illuminating power of the gas?—We did not do so; in this case we got the best sperm candles, as I said before, and we burned those candles, and they burned, as nearly as possible, in almost every instance, 120 grains per hour.

3882. Where did you test them in order to ascertain that?—In the photometer at the time we performed the experiments, and the candles were weighed every time, as it is proper they should be.

Mr. *W. T. Sugg.*

5 June 1867.

3883. Have you got an account of the weights?—Dr. Odling has an account of them.

3884. But suppose a candle is mixed with paraffin?—If it is mixed with paraffin, that would increase its illuminating power, and therefore it would be against the gas.

3885. Supposing it was mixed with wax?—That would increase its illuminating power; but on the present occasion the candles were true sperm candles, neither mixed with wax nor with paraffin.

3886. Mr. *Richards.*] In your opinion, were the testings fairly made?—Yes; they could not have been better made, because the candles burned so accurately.

3887. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Are you the maker of Sugg's burners?—Yes.

3888. Do you make them yourself?—Yes.

3889. The steatite burner?—Yes.

3890. What is the diameter of the central opening?—If it is a 14 candle burner, the diameter of the central opening would be ·48 inches; but it varies according to the illuminating power of the gas, and according to what the burner has to do.

3891. Supposing it to be a burner for 12 candle gas?—I believe that it is ·42; but I am only speaking from memory.

Mr. *Richards.*] These questions do not refer to the batswing burner.

Chairman (to Mr. *O'Malley*).] I understand you to think that the answers to the questions will illustrate whether the experiments have been properly made.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I do not know that.

Witness.] The questions that the learned Counsel now puts will not clear up this question at all. The burner is put in and is deposited that we use; it is a batswing burner; the Argand burner is to test common gas; now we do not use a batswing burner to test common gas.

3892. Mr. *O'Malley.*] What is the difference between the burner that was originally in use in 1860, and what is called Sugg's improved burner?—If you ask me questions, without having my papers I cannot answer them. I come here to speak to the Manchester gas only. I should be prepared on another occasion to speak to the question of the burners.

3893. As you are a manufacturer, I would rather have it now, when you are not prepared, and I ask you what is the difference between the ordinary burner which was in general use in 1860, and your improved burner?—No difference at all.

3894. Is there no improvement in your burner by the fact of its being a steatite one?—I put into an old 15 hole burner a steatite top, and therefore there can be no difference; it is the same 15 hole burner; the only difference is that there is a steatite top instead of an iron top, but the results in illuminating power are identical.

3895. Will you venture to say that it is the same in structure; look at the two things, and will you say that the interior diameter is the same in both (*handing a sketch to the Witness*)?—I see an orifice marked here 576·75, and if this has been measured from a real burner, the burner is not a 15 hole burner at all, I should say.

3896. I must go back to my question, and do you say that the opening is the same in your burner as it was in the burner that was in general use in 1860, or do you say that the opening in the 15 hole burner is the same as it was in the burner that was in general use in 1860?—That question is not clear; I am speaking now of two burners of 15 holes each.

3897. What I ask you is this, was the internal opening represented by that sort of disc on the sketch the same in yours as in the one that was in general use

use in 1860?—The burner must be the same as that burner, because a 15 hole burner was taken, and a steatite top was put into it, therefore it must be the same.

3898. Will you venture to assert that the opening in your burner is the same as was in use in the burner of 1860?—The same undoubtedly, and it must be the same; I put a top into it.

3899. Am I to understand you to say that you construct your burners now by taking the old burner of 1860 and putting a top in?—No.

3900. Has the new burner the same internal opening, and the same diameter as those which were in general use in 1860?—The new burner is of the same size.

3901. By the *Committee.*] You have been asked whether the burner which, it appears, goes by your name is the same burner that was in use when the Act of 1860 was passed, and whether your improvements consisted in putting in a material that was durable in lieu of a material that wore out?—Yes, exactly so; that was the improvement, and the only one.

3902. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Am I right in saying that in the old burner the holes of the burner are larger, but the internal diameter of the burner is smaller; is that correct or not?—You are speaking of a mythical burner, while I am speaking of a real burner. It is possible to make a burner with any sized holes you please in it, and therefore it is impossible for me to say whether there is a difference in the holes of a burner, because you may present a burner with any sized holes you like.

3903. Is it right to say that in the old burner the holes are larger, but the internal diameter of the burner is smaller?—I do not know about that at all.

3904. Can you say whether it is so or not?—No.

3905. Is this a correct description, or am I right in saying that in the old burner the holes are larger, but the internal diameter of the burner is smaller?—What burner?

3906. Comparing the old burner and your new burner?—I cannot say whether that is correct; I do not understand the question.

3907. When you were speaking about the burners, did you not make a distinction between a photometrical burner and the other?—These burners are photometrical burners.

3908. Is there a difference between a photometrical burner and an ordinary burner?—I do not know that there is.

3909. I ask you this; in the photometrical burner that was used in 1860 and the photometrical burner that is now used, do you mean to say that the internal orifice is the same?—When you speak of the photometrical burner that was used in 1860, I cannot tell you what you mean; if you will give me the dimensions of the burners I will answer you.

3910. You have given us the dimensions of two burners of yours?—No; I have not given the dimensions of two burners of mine; I said that I spoke from memory.

3911. Can you give me the measurements of your burners?—Yes; I can do so.

3912. What are they?—I do not mean at the present moment; I can only speak from memory now.

3913. Then, according to your remembrance, what are they?—I prefer not to answer the question.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

3914. Am I to understand you, that the improvement in your burner is the substitution of steatite for iron at the part where the gas passes through for combustion?—Exactly so; as the Chairman has already put it.

Mr. *W. T. Sugg.*

5 June 1867.

3915. Am I right in saying that the new burners have not corroded, and that the burner that was made before 1860 was, when new and uncorroded, equal to yours?—Undoubtedly.

3916. Was it your burner that was employed for testing the gas at Manchester?—It was my burner that was there employed.

3917. Assuming that to be anything better than any other burner, the Manchester gas, which turned out to be 18·38, had an advantage?—If my burner was the best, undoubtedly it had the advantage.

3918. Otherwise it would have turned out worse than 18·38?—Yes.

[The Witness withdrew.

Adjourned till To-morrow, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 6th June 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Samuel Barber*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Michael*.

3919. YOU are Solicitor and Secretary to the Western Gas Company?—I am.

3920. And I believe that you have been so for nearly 19 years?—Yes.

3921. Will you describe your district, and the situation of your works?—That map does not quite correctly represent my district; it is more correctly represented by this map, which is correct (*producing a map*).

3922. I believe that you were solicitor to the companies previous to the districting arrangement in the year 1857?—I acted as solicitor for the five companies who made that arrangement.

3923. Which were they?—The Imperial, the London, the Equitable, the Western, and the Chartered.

3924. And I believe you prepared the deed of arrangement between the companies?—I did.

3925. When does the transfer of districts date from?—From 1st July 1857.

3926. Had you many difficulties to contend with before the districts could be allotted?—It was a very complicated question, and the difficulty was to do justice to all the companies and the public. The negotiations lasted for 18 months, and ultimately we came to the arrangement that was laid before the Committee in 1858.

3927. I believe that you have a map showing how London was lighted by the companies previous to the districting arrangement?—Yes, this map (*producing the same*) will give some notion of it.—(*The maps were handed in*).

3928. All those districts have a colour representing a single gas company, each colour represents a separate company?—Yes.

3929. And it is so in the other map also?—Yes.

3930. Showing two, three, or four companies in every district?—Yes.

3931. Each company took up one separate district under the districting arrangement?—Yes.

3932. That led to considerable improvement in the gas supply of the districts?—No doubt it was a great advantage to the public as well as to the companies.

3933. What was the object of the districting arrangement?—The object really was to see if the companies could not increase their dividends without any increase of price; they were paying low dividends at the time, and had done so for many years, therefore it was absolutely necessary either to raise the price of gas or to come to this arrangement, and by reducing their expenses get the same profit in that form.

3934. Was the object of all this districting arrangement to make the various districts as convenient to supply as possible?—Yes.

Mr. *S. Barber.*

6 June 1867.

3935. That object was, you think, fairly carried out by the districting arrangement?—No doubt.

3936. With regard to your own district before the districting arrangement, how far had you extended it?—We laid our mains out as far as Leicester-square and Cranbourne-street; we lighted the Great Globe and the Panopticon.

3937. How far to the south?—We extended to the south almost down to the river, the Commercial-road; we had all the public lamps in Belgravia, and a very difficult district it was to light.

3938. How far to the west did you go?—Much the same as we are now.

3939. And to the north?—To the north we were lighting at Kilburn.

3940. What was the result of the districting so far as your company was concerned? did you discontinue lighting at those parts that were furthest from your works?—Yes, as was shown to the Committee in 1858, we withdrew our mains from those parts that were the furthest from our works and shrank into the compass shown by the blue line on the map, which I now put in also (*handing in another map*).

3941. Was a similar course taken by the other companies?—It was.

3942. Referring to some of the evils that you got rid of by the districting, first, where there were parallel mains, was it very difficult to distinguish the mains of one company from those of another?—Yes.

3943. Did you find that often supplies were taken from the wrong mains?—Yes.

The *Chairman* having inquired to what point this examination was tending,

Mr. *Michael* stated that, as the Western differed from other companies, in supplying only cannel gas, his examination would be directed to the question of cannel; but that he thought it right to take from this Witness such evidence, upon the subject of the districting, as he alone could give, having been solicitor to the united companies before the Act of 1860.

3944. Mr. *Michael.*] Will you refer to the Districting Deed, which was not put in before the former Committee?—Yes.

3945. Will you read the enumeration of the evils that were to be remedied by the districting?—The Deed recites the following evils:—"1st. Where there are parallel mains, it is difficult to distinguish the mains of one company from those of another; by reason thereof supplies are taken from the wrong mains, and litigation is occasioned thereby. 2nd. The quantity of gas which escapes by leakage is increased. 3rd. The increased leakage occasions increased loss to the companies, and greater contamination of the surrounding soil, and even of water in the mains for the supply of water, and greater risk of explosions, and other evils, by the escape of gas into cellars and the underground parts of neighbouring houses, and into the mains of the telegraph companies. 4th. It is difficult to ascertain from which company's mains the leakage takes place, and therefore to which company notices to repair the mains whence the leakage takes place, ought to be given. 5th. The breaking up of streets for laying, repairing, and renewing gas mains is frequent; and, 6th. There is greater injury to the gas mains, by reason of the breaking up of streets for purposes connected with water supply and sewerage." Those evils were, for the most part, put an end to by the districting arrangement.

3946. There is only one other point. "Provided always, that inasmuch as it is not the intention"?—Yes, there is a clause agreeing not to compete with one another, and then follows:—"Provided always, that inasmuch as it is not the intention of these presents in conferring on the five companies the exclusive possession of their respective districts to enable any of them to raise the price of gas to consumers above the maximum charge fixed by Parliament on their last investigation of the supply of gas by a metropolitan gas company, and inasmuch also, as the maximum charge so fixed is legally binding only on the Imperial, therefore no company shall be entitled to insist on the observance in their favour of Article 25, except while they are supplying gas in their district at a price not exceeding the price sanctioned, and of a quality at least equal to the quality required by the Imperial Gas Act, 1854, in the case of the gas known as cannel gas, at a price not exceeding one-third more than the price sanctioned,

sanctioned, and of a quality exceeding by at least one-third the quality required by that Act."

3947. Now, as the result of that districting, were the surplus mains, as far as practicable, removed?—Yes, by every company.

3948. I suppose that you heard the evidence of Mr. Clemenshaw with regard to the surplus mains still existing in the public ways; is that the fact with regard to your company?—No, we took up every main that was worth taking up.

3949. Are there any mains in your district which are reservoirs for gas, and not used to supply mains?—No.

3950. What do you think of what Mr. Clemenshaw said with regard to surplus mains in Regent-street?—So far from there being surplus mains in Regent-street, my company had to lay an additional main the year before last.

3951. In Regent-street?—Yes.

3952. Is that the case in Piccadilly?—Yes, the same exactly, in consequence of the increase of business.

3953. By any of these arrangments, was the price of gas raised?—No, it would have been contrary to the idea of the companies; there was no raising of the price except where there had been unfair contracts below a remunerative figure, and there the companies put the vestries and consumers, who had been getting it too cheap, all on one basis, and of course that increased the profits considerably; every man had to pay the same as his neighbour, whereas before unfair consumers had been accustomed to play off one company against the other.

3954. Now with regard to the Western Company, has it faithfully discharged the obligations imposed upon it by the Act of Parliament?—Decidedly.

3955. What was the result of the Act so far as your back dividends were concerned; what amount of back dividend have you unpaid?—

Chairman.] I understand that we are to have a printed return, which will show us the exact state of the facts with respect to all the companies.

Mr. *Richards.*] I think the information will be found in the returns which I handed in this morning.

Mr. *Michael.*] The table will hardly give you in this form the amount of the back dividend.

Chairman.] There is no conceivable use in having from the Witness what we shall have in a tabular form.

Witness.] We lost 100,000 *l.* of back dividend, and I do not think that you have got that fact.

3956. Mr. *Michael.*] What was the amount of back dividend that you lost by the Act of Parliament?—If we had made up all our back dividends to 10 per cent. we should have paid 135,000 *l.* since the passing of the Act; we have paid 32,000 *l.*, and consequently we have lost 103,000 *l.*

3957. What is your present price of gas?—5 *s.* 6 *d.*, it is 20 candle gas, the minimum is 20, it is practically 21½ on an average.

3958. *Chairman.*] I understood you to say that you had a small dividend before the districting arrangement?—Yes, a deficient dividend.

3959. What dividends are you paying now?—We are now paying 10 per cent.

3960. And besides that you have paid 30,000 *l.* in back dividends?—Yes.

3961. Do I understand you to say that but for the Act of Parliament you would have paid 100,000 *l.* more in back dividends?—If we had made up all the dividends from the beginning of the company to 10 per cent.

3962. Mr. *Michael.*] You were limited by the Act of Parliament as well as the other companies?—Yes, we had no limit previously to that.

3963. What was your price before the reduction to 5 *s.* 6 *d.*?—6 *s.*

3964. When did you reduce your price?—At Lady-day 1865.

3965. Your

Mr. *S. Barber.*

6 June 1867.

3965. Your price before that was 6 *s.*, and you reduced it to 5 *s.* 6 *d.* at Lady-day 1865?—Yes.

3966. What led to that reduction?—Simply the desire of the directors to sell their gas as cheaply as any other company in London; there was no agitation at all before we announced our intention of reducing our price.

3967. What is the price that you have been paying lately for cannel coal?—Our principal contracts in the last year or two have been calculated at 21 *s.* 4 *d.* for Wigan cannel, 22 *s.* 6 *d.* and 23 *s.*

3968. Since you reduced the price of gas, has there been any change in the price of cannel?—I am sorry to say that there is a great change.

3969. What is the price now?—The price now is 26 *s.*

3970. Have you bought any at that price?—We have.

3971. I believe lately that you tried to get it at a less price?—We did.

3972. And you have failed to do so?—Yes.

3973. Do you use entirely one kind of cannel?—I can give you the particulars of the different cannels.

3974. Will you give me the particulars of the different cannels which you use; are you forced to use any Scotch coal with the Wigan in order to keep up your illuminating power?—We generally keep a little first-class cannel in stock for the winter to provide for sudden frost or the going down of the illuminating power by inferior deliveries of other coal; the coal coming in bad condition sometimes will lower the illuminating power suddenly, and we are forced to put a little stronger stuff to it.

3975. Have you a statement of the working expenses?—I have made out my statement to correspond with the printed one.

3976. What are your receipts on 1,000 feet of gas sold; what is the total quantity which you supply in the year?—At the end of the last financial year we had supplied 303,183,000 feet to private consumers.

3977. And public lamps, how much?—35,105,000.

3978. Making a total of how much?—338,228,000.

3979. What were your receipts per 1,000 feet of gas sold;—I have got the bulk sums.

3980. They are in the table. Will you now give us the quanity of coal consumed; how many tons of Boghead did you use during the past year ending the 30th of June 1866?—We used 39,657 tons of coal in all; consisting of Boghead 415 tons, Lesmahagow 402 tons, Rigside 1,065 tons, Wigan altogether 37,231 tons; consisting of Rosebridge 13,479, and Kirklees 23,752 tons.

3981. You add those together to make the total?—Yes; there was a slight mixture of Newcastle coal, 544 tons.

3982. That makes up a grand total of what?—That makes up a grand total of 39,657 tons. They come out in this per-centage: Boghead, 1 per cent.; Lesmahagow, 1 per cent.; Rigside, 2·7 per cent.; Wigan, 93·9 per cent.; and Newcastle, 1·4 per cent.

3983. What was the yield per ton of that mixture?—8,530 cubic feet for sale.

3984. 10,337 cubic feet were made per ton, I believe?—Yes.

3985. The leakage was how much per cent.?—17 per cent. being cannel gas.

3986. Now, with regard to your receipts, first, per 1,000 feet of the gas sold, the gas rental, how much did that amount to?—67·17 *d.*; to get to the clear result of the making of the gas only, I have deducted, for convenience sake, the lighting and repairing of lamps 1·35, bad debts ·36, making together 1·71; so that I get gas 65·46 *d.*, the nominal price being 5 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet; the sale of old material being ·02; making the receipts, exclusive of products and rental from meters (brought in below), 65·48 *d.* as the total receipt from the gas.

3987. Now your expenditure in manufacture?—The price of coal is 32·75 *d.*

3988. How much do you deduct for the products?—8 *d.*

3989. Making the net cost of the coal how much?—24·75 *d.*; that is to say, the price of coal less the products.

3990. In the total cost of manufacture, exclusive of the price of coal, how much have you to add?—11·84 *d.*, making the total cost of manufacture 36·59 *d.*

3991. How much did the distribution cost you?—1·63 *d.*

3992. And the cost of your total management, how much?—4·17 *d.*; they come

come out heavy, the quantity of gas sold to produce the same results being so much fewer 1,000 feet.

3993. You have some law and Parliamentary charges and redemption to add; what does that make the total cost?—42·97 *d.*

3994. How much does that leave for profits?—The profits on gas are then 22·51 *d.*

3995. Then there is the meter rental profit?—Yes; that sum, deducting from the receipts from the consumers the amount paid for repairing the meters, was 1·15 *d.*

3996. How much does that leave you as the aggregate profit?—23·66 *d.* per 1,000 feet sold.

3997. How much does the interest on your borrowed capital require?—1·56 *d.*

3998. And your 10 per cent. dividend?—20·70 *d.*

3999. Does that leave any balance?—It left us with a balance for the reserved fund of 1·40 *d.*, not out of the gas, because the profits on the meter rental came to 1·15 *d.*, therefore there was ·25 of a penny left for the profit on the gas.

4000. Now give us your capital?—It was then 345,000 *l.* odd.

4001. Mr. *Peel.*] What was the amount of your share capital?—£. 300,000.

4002. Mr. *Michael.*] How much borrowed?

Chairman.] We have got all that put in this morning.

4003. Mr. *Michael.*] Was that calculated on the cost of manufacture before the rise?—It does not show the present state of things.

4004. What is the present cost with the price of coal at 26*s.*?—That would work out for the cost of coal to 36·70 instead of the figure 32·75.

4005. What does that make an increase of?—About 4*d.*; the products would be the same.

4006. You have something to add for cost of labour, and lime for further purification?—Yes; we have been desirous of adopting every improvement, and as so much was said about lime as against oxide of iron last year, we have put up a purifier for lime, and that is costing us something considerable.

4007. How much would that cost extra per 1,000 feet?—1¼*d.* or 1·25 *d.*

4008. What would that make the total extra expense?—5·20 *d.*

4009. What effect would that have on your dividend; will it allow you to pay 10 per cent?—No; it would bring down the dividend, I fear, to about 7*l.* 10*s.* per cent. if we continue our present charge of 5*s.* 6*d.*

4010. Mr. *Peel.*] It would reduce your dividend by 2½ per cent?—Yes.

4011. Mr. *Michael.*] How much increase in the price of coal per ton adds 1*d.* to the cost of your gas?—10*d.* per ton is 1*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, taking 10,000 to the ton.

4012. What do you get for the products of your coal?—We have a good market for coke owing to our situation, and though it is cannel coke, we get 10*s.* 3¼*d.* on the average per chaldron.

4013. Is that because, practically, you have the monopoly of supply in your district?—Yes, practically, we have; the works at Fulham and the works at Battle Bridge are the nearest to us, and they are many miles off.

4014. Do you find what was stated by Mr. Cliff, that the price of coal does not materially affect the price of gas, is correct?—No; because we pay more money for our cannel, people will not give us more for our coke.

4015. Have you made an abstract of Captain Gridley's Return, showing how many companies there are with the various illuminating power to each?—I find that there is one Act of Parliament with 9 candles, 23 with 10 candles, 4 with 11 candles, 40 with 12 candles; that is within 11 years, from the year 1856 to 1866; there are seven Acts with 13 candles, 68 with 14 candles, 4 with 15 candles, 6 with 16 candles, and 4 with 18 candles, including Wigan. Beyond that there are three Acts of Parliament; the Metropolis Gas Act, with 12 and 20 candles; the Dewsbury Act gives 12 and 20 candles, but they make no cannel gas; and the Liverpool Company's Act is 20 candles gas.

4016. Have you examined the price of coal in those companies; how many companies are paying 26*s.* a ton for coal?—I have been calling over, not Captain Gridley's Return, but the Acts of Parliament passed from the year 1856 to the year 1866.

Mr. *S. Barber.*

6 June 1867.

4017. Will you tell me how many companies pay as high as 26 *s.* for their coals?—Only one.

4018. Is that Inverness 26 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Yes.

4019. What price do the public pay for their gas?—7 *s.* 6 *d.*; that is out of 141 towns.

4020. Do you know the illuminating power of the gas at Inverness?—No, I do not.

4021. It is a high illuminating power, of course, because it is Scotch cannel?—Yes.

4022. Could you give me the price of the gas in the towns mentioned by Mr. Hughes in his evidence; for instance, what is the price of coal in Blackburn; I am referring to Captain Gridley's Return?—Yes; I have a note of it here. Blackburn is only 14 *s.* paid for cannel; Bradford, 9 *s.* 10 *d.*; Derby, 9 *s.* 8 *d.*; Nottingham, 11 *s.* 5 *d.*; Preston, 12 *s.*; Rochdale, 7 *s.* 3 *d.*; Sheffield, 8 *s.* 8 *d.*; and Stockport, 17 *s.* 4 *d.* That is a year or two ago, of course.

4023. It has been stated by one of the witnesses, Mr. Beal, with regard to St. James's, that the lamps there burn $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet per hour, and that if a proper burner were used, a foot and a half would be ample for their requirements?—I think he said that they were supposed to burn $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; it is a correct quantity, but they could not burn anything like that.

4024. Do you supply more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet?—Yes, more.

4025. Your contract is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet, but in reality you supply a larger quantity?—Yes, the burners are so regulated as to give them $\frac{1}{4}$ more than the contract.

4026. Is that one of your means of accounting for the gas that comes under the head of leakage?—Yes, we give a large amount beyond the quantity to keep on the safe side.

4027. *Chairman.*] Do you mean to the private consumers, or are you speaking of both private and public lamps?—You cannot adjust it so nicely as that.

4028. But is that what you mean?—We do give more than the actual contract quantity to the public lamps.

4029. Mr. *Goldney.*] About a tenth more?—Yes, $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet instead of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

4030. Mr. *Michael.*] Have the company been in communication with the vestries, and have they urged them to adopt a larger burner?—Yes, we have done so; we do not consider that the $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet burner lights the streets properly, it brings disgrace on the parish and the company too.

4031. *Chairman.*] I do not see where we are going to. The question of lighting a parish is a question for the parish authorities.

Mr. *Michael.*] You have had evidence that this company did not adequately light the parish.

Chairman.] But the Witness says that they fulfil their contract, and that is quite sufficient.

4032. Mr. *Michael.*] You said that the capital of your company is 345,000 *l.*, 300,000 *l.* share capital, and 45,000 *l.* loans; how much have you increased since June 1860?—87,000 *l.*

4033. *Chairman.*] Is not that before us in the return which you have put in?—I think it is; but this is laid out since the Act of 1860.

4034. Have you made a return under the order of this Committee?—Yes.

4035. Is what you are now giving us before us in that return already?—There have been so many returns that I cannot say offhand, but whatever the Committee has asked for has been put in.

4036. Mr. *Michael.*] Has your capital increased or diminished in proportion to your rental?—It has gone down very much.

4037. What was it in the year 1859?—It was 478 *l.* per 100 *l.* of gas rental.

4038. *Chairman.*] When you come to address us, Mr. Michael, you will be able to make any comment you please, and found any argument you please on those variations between capital and gas rental; but we have got them before us, in an authentic shape, already; if you will point out to us anything which will show that we are usefully employing our time and the money of the parties, we will go at any length into the evidence; but to spend the time of the Committee, and the money of the parties unnecessarily, is not according to our wish?—Would you permit me to say that, upon the evidence, it appears that my company's capital comes out at a certain rate, according to Mr. Hughes——

4039. Mr.

4039. Mr. *Michael.*] How many miles of mains have you?—107 miles.
4040. In how many miles of street?—83.
4041. How many consumers have you?—11,700.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

4042. You say that the capital is 345,460 *l.*; that is in 1866?—Yes.
4043. And the capital in 1865 was 322,000 *l.*; is not that so?—Whatever appears on the return to Parliament.
4044. When did you call up the additional capital?—Between the two times.
4045. When was that; how lately; how soon was it after the publication of the 1865 account?—The first day of the half year.
4046. That has all been paid up, I presume?—Yes.
4047. Has it been spent?—Yes.
4048. What in?—I can give you my expenditure——
4049. In what work has this increase of capital been expended; was it in mains or retorts?—We built a retort-house lately; our chief expenditure has been a large retort-house.
4050. What was the cost of that large retort-house?—I dare say, up to the present time, we have spent from 25,000 *l.* to 30,000 *l.* upon it.
4051. Not out of this capital; because that was only 23,000 *l.*?—It is difficult to draw the line between the two half years.
4052. I do not see the difficulty; has the 23,000 *l.* additional capital been spent on necessary works?—Absolutely necessary works.
4053. You say that you have been deprived of your back dividends by the Act of 1860; that you have lost 103,000 *l.*?—Yes.
4054. The next best thing is to increase your share capital, and to spend as much money out of your capital as you can, I suppose?—It is very easy for you to draw your conclusions, but that is not so, because we have borrowed 12,000 *l.* from the bankers to pay the last dividend, and we owe them 9,000 *l.* at the present moment.
4055. Now, you say that the price of coals is 26 *s.*; when did the rise take place?—The 18th of May is the date of our last order.
4056. In this year?—Yes.
4057. What was the price of coal up to June 1866; was it 21 *s.*?—I have given you this, I think.
4058. No, you have not; in June 1866 was the price of coal 21 *s.*?—I think I called over the contracts, and said that the prices had been 21 *s.* 4 *d.*, 22 *s.* 6 *d.*, and 23 *s.*
4059. In the year 1865 and 1866 were the prices the same; was there any difference in the price of coal in 1865 and 1866?—In February there is a contract for 500 tons of Rosebridge coal at 23 *s.*
4060. Was it rather more in 1865 than in 1866?—In the same month there was a contract with the Wigan Coal Company at 22 *s.* 6 *d.*
4061. You were practically paying the same price for coal in the year 1865 as you were in the year 1866?—It works out to about the same.
4062. In the manufacture of gas for 1866 the coals were 46,162 *l.*, as against 38,137 *l.* in 1865; will you take that from me?—I daresay that is so.
4063. Is that 8,000 *l.* simply owing to the increased quantity of coal bought, it being 38,000 *l.* in 1865 against 46,000 *l.* in 1866; is that all owing to the increased quantity of coal?—To the increased business.
4064. To the increased quantity of coal?—No doubt.
4065. What is the difference in the gas produced in the two years; I mean the quantity?—It was 10,337 feet per ton in 1866, and in the previous year it was 10,850 feet per ton.
4066. How do you account for that increase in one year over the other?—They are not exactly the same coals.
4067. But my question is the gross quantity of gas in each year; give me 1865, for we have 1866?

Mr. *Lefevre.*] Some of the gas in 1865 was sold at 6 *s.* per 1,000, and that they make up the difference.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] Yes, but I want the quantity.

Mr *S. Barber.*

6 June 1867.

4068. (To the *Witness*). Will you give me the quantity of gas made in 1865 ?—367,000,000 cubic feet.

4069. One other matter; you have said that the additional purification by lime necessarily involves an extra cost of about 1¼ *d.* ?—So I was told by the engineer.

4070. But is the price of purifying by lime simply the same as it would be before the gas had gone through the process of purification by the oxide ?—I cannot say.

4071. But of course the cost of purifying by lime after the gas had been purified by the oxide would be less than if it had to be originally purified by lime, is that not so ?—I cannot tell; the engineer will tell you that.

4072. You know the concerns of this company, I suppose; is it the fact that at the commencement in 1850 and 1851 you had to pull down, and rebuilt works to the amount of about 80,000 *l.* ?—No.

4073. Is it the fact that you had to reconstruct your works in 1850 or 1851 ?—No.

4074. I am not correctly informed, then ?—No.

Re-examined by Mr. *Michael.*

4075. With regard to the coals; it may happen in one year that you may have a much larger stock than in another year, so that the quantity which you paid for in any one year would hardly represent the quantity of gas that would remain ?—No, we take that into account and charge the account with the actual consumption; another thing, the same coals will vary in their producing power; some contracts are delivered better, and will work out better with the very same coal.

4076. But your accounts show the actual quantity of coal bought, or the quantity used in the year ?—In the account which I first gave, 39,150 is the quantity used.

4077. And 1865 would be on the same plan, I suppose ?—Exactly.

4078. *Chairman.*] When the districting took place you retired from some places, and the Imperial, the London, and your neighbours retired from the supply of other places ?—Yes.

4079. The same customers who had been formerly supplied with cannel gas had afterwards to be supplied with common gas, and other customers who had been formerly supplied with common gas had now to be supplied with cannel gas ?—Yes, that is so.

4080. Have you had any reason to know whether there has been any dissatisfaction with the change on the part of either of those classes of customers ?—When you supply so many consumers there are always some people who are dissatisfied.

4081. I am not asking about exceptional cases, but has there been any general dissatisfaction on the part of persons who have been obliged to give up common gas and to pay for cannel gas, or on the part of persons who have been obliged to give up cannel gas and to pay for the use of common gas ?—To answer that question candidly and carefully, I should say that I cannot speak to what might be the effect in the case of a change from the cannel to the common gas, but in the case of my company, taking the common gas consumers as against the cannel gas consumers, there was no dissatisfaction.

4082. At what price did you supply cannel gas ?—At 6 *s.*

4083. At what price at that time was the common gas charged ?—4 *s.* 6 *d.*

4084. Then I understand you to say that the consumer, so far as you know, is pleased with the change from the common gas at 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to your gas at 6 *s.* ? I should like to give you information on that subject, but it is a difficult question to answer; the public do not express their pleasure in that way when they are not consulted in the arrangement; I do not know that they seemed particularly pleased in our district, but I believe that they are now quite satisfied.

4085. I will put this question then; did your experience on the occasion of the change give, or has it subsequently given, you any means of judging whether the consumer is better pleased with the common gas at the one price than with the cannel gas at the other price ?—No.

4086. Your experience does not enable you to give an answer to my question ?—No.

4087. Am

Mr. S. *Barber.*

6 June 1867.

4087. Am I, then, to take it that you were the solicitor for the five companies, and that, under your direction, this great change was made; that you have continued to be the principal manager of one of the companies from that time to the present, and that your experience enables you to give us no light at all on that subject?—I can give you no reliable answer, I think.

4088. Mr. *Lefevre.*] What further powers of raising capital have you got?—We have no further powers at present.

4089. Is your capital fully paid up?—No.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] £. 300,000 is still to be raised.

4090. Mr. *Lefevre.*] Under what powers is it; under a private Act of Parliament?—No.

4091. How is your company constituted?—Under a Joint Stock Act.

4092. That was before the year 1860?—Yes; and that Act gave us our powers.

4093. Mr. *Rodwell.*] There is a very glaring inconsistency somewhere, I think. You say that the gas made in 1865 was considerably greater than the gas made in the year 1866?—No; it was the gas sold in one case, and the gas made in the other.

4094. The quantity of gas made was 367,000,000 in the year 1865, was it not?—Yes.

4095. And 410,000,000 nearly in the year 1866?—Yes.

4096. That is, gas made?—That is, gas made.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Lewis William Pritchard,* called in; and Examined by Mr. *Michael.*

Mr. *L. W. Pritchard.*

4097. You are Engineer for the Western Gas Company, are you not?—I am.

4098. And you have been so for the last eight years, I believe?—I have.

4099. We have heard that you supply 20 candle gas?—Yes.

4100. What is the standard to which you have worked out?—We generally work up to 21 candles and 23 candles, 21½ or 22.

4101. You put your prices of coal down at 23 *s.* for Rosebridge coal, and 22 *s.* 6 *d.* for Kirklees Hall?—Yes.

4102. What was the price previously to this contract?—21 *s.* 6 *d.*

4103. Have you found any difficulty in getting coal at that price since?—We cannot get it at all at that price; we paid in January last 25 *s.* 6 *d.* for a small contract of Rosebridge.

4104. What is the last price paid by your company?—The last price I have just quoted, namely, 25 *s.* 6 *d.* for a small contract.

Chairman (to Mr. *Webster*).] Do you dispute at all the price of cannel being 25 *s.* 6 *d.* or 26 *s.*?

Mr. *Webster.*] No; we are aware that the price varies. The only matter which we dispute is the question of the inadequacy of the supply.

Chairman.] I only mention that because we were occupied, I think, 20 minutes in the examination of the last witness, and the Committee are unanimously of opinion that everything we heard we knew before from the records that were in our hands.

Mr. *Webster.*] Although a good many questions were asked by my learned friend about cannel, I did not ask a question, because I considered that the Committee had the facts before them.

4105. Mr. *Michael.*] Have you visited the cannel collieries in North Wales?—I have.

4106. Could you get any cannel coal on better terms than those at present paid by your company?—I could not.

4107. What is the minimum of the illuminating power that you get from the Wigan cannel?—It depends on the condition we get from the leading pits that we have dealt with, such as the Ince Hall, Kirklees, Rosebridge, and others, a minimum of 20 candle gas.

Mr. *L. W. Pritchard.*

6 June 1867.

4108. What is the maximum?—That I cannot give you.

4109. What is your average from those coals?—That is in the return you have had from Mr. Barber.

4110. Will you give me the per-centage of the coal which you used during 1866; how much Rosebridge and Kirklees?—I can only repeat the per-centage which you have already heard.

4111. Supposing that all the companies are called upon to supply 18 candle gas, what is your estimate of the figure at which it could be done?—Exactly what I am now supplying the 20 candle minimum for; the rise in price would just give the difference in the cost.

4112. How much per 1,000?—4 *d.* or 5 *d.* per 1,000.

4113. What is your estimate of the price which it would cost for the improved purification by lime?—$1\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per 1,000.

4114. Have you carefully gone into that?—Yes; it is the practical result of the working.

4115. Do you use the best means in your power for producing the best gas?—Yes.

4116. Can it be produced at a less price than we have heard of?—No; I have had an opportunity recently of examining cannel gas from various towns in the country, and I have found that, as far as the cost of production goes, we can compare successfully with the best.

4117. Now, with regard to the burners, is it necessary that you should have a batswing burner for the examination of your gas?—That is the burner which has been hitherto recognised.

4118. Would an ordinary Argand burner be suitable for the testing of cannel gas?—No.

4119. Will you give the reasons?—It is simply that we cannot burn the quantity through the Argand burner; you require a flat flame.

4120. Have you made any experiments to test the diminution if you burn a smaller quantity?—To bring it up to 20 by a smaller volume than five feet I find a variation of from 7 to 15 per cent., burning various quantities under five feet, we commence at three feet, and then go up as high as three feet eight, which is the highest quantity we can burn of cannel in a common gas burner; that will not calculate up to the value.

Chairman.] Is all this to show that the same burner is not used for cannel and common gas?

Mr. *Michael.*] It is to show that the burner in Schedule No. 2 is not suitable for testing cannel.

Chairman.] We have already agreed to postpone that until we come to the Schedule.

4121. Mr. *Michael.*] Have you gone over Dr. Frankland's estimate of making cannel gas?—I have.

4122. Twenty cwt. of Newcastle coal, giving 10,000 feet at 15 candles, works out to 150,000; is that correct?—No.

4123. How ought it to be?—I take it as Mr. Hughes took it, at 9,500 feet and 12 candles, which being worked out, gives 114,000, that is to say, taking a ton of Newcastle coal, 9,500 feet to the ton and 12 candle gas.

4124. *Chairman.*] You take 20 cwt. of Newcastle coal, and you give 9,500 feet?—Yes, that is the accepted value.

4125. You give that as your experience?—That is as taken by Mr. Hughes.

4126. 9,500 feet at 12 candles?—Yes.

4127. Mr. *Michael.*] That works out to 114,000 cubic feet?—Yes.

4128. Dr. Frankland takes 13·6 cwt. of cannel as giving 7,500 feet and 22 candle gas?—Yes.

4129. That works out to 165,000 cubic feet?—Yes, that is taking the Wigan cannel yielding 11,029 per ton.

4130. How do you correct that?—That being divided by the volume of 17,500.

4131. No, give your correction of that?—I take the same quantity of Wigan cannel at the rate of 10,300 per ton.

4132. *Chairman.*]

4132. *Chairman.*] You take 13·6 cwt. of Wigan cannel?—Yes, at the rate of 10,300 per ton.

4133. That gives how much?—7,004 feet and 22 candles, as before.

4134. That gives per ton how much?—10,300 feet per ton, giving 154,088.

4135. Mr. *Michael.*] Adding Dr. Frankland's figures together, they come to 315,000?—Yes.

4136. And adding yours together, they come to 268,088?—Yes.

4137. Dividing Dr. Frankland's result by his volume, gives 18 candle gas as the maximum?—Yes.

4138. Dividing yours gives 16·2 candle gas?—Yes, that is the maximum.

4139. Now, in working out the expenses, Dr. Frankland gives 20 cwt. of Newcastle coal at 15 *s.* 3¼ *d.*?—Yes; I give it at 16 *s.*

4140. Cannel he gives at 17 *s.*?—Yes; I give it at the rate of 26 *s.* per ton, which is 17 *s.* 8 *d.*

4141. His total is 1 *l.* 12 *s.* 3¼ *d.*?—Yes.

4142. As against your total of 1 *l.* 13 *s.* 8 *d.*?—Yes.

4143. Dividing by the volume gives, per 1,000 feet, 1 *s.* 10 *d.* for coal?—Yes.

4144. Against your 2 *s.*, or 24·49 *d.*?—Yes.

4145. Dr. Frankland puts the expenses at 1 *s.* 5½ *d.*?—Yes.

4146. Your expenses being 1*s.* 6·22 *d.*?—Yes.

4147. The leakage, Dr. Frankland gives at 12 per cent., which is equal to 4¼ *d.*?—Yes.

4148. Your leakage is 15 per cent., or 5·25 *d.*?—Yes.

4149. Dr. Frankland's total is 3 *s.* 7¾ *d.*?—Yes.

4150. And your total is 3 *s.* 11·96 *d.*?—Just so.

4151. Dr. Frankland gives the products, Newcastle coke, 7 *s.* 4 *d.*?—Yes.

4152. Your product, Newcastle coke two-thirds of a chaldron, is 6 *s.*—Yes.

4153. Dr. Frankland gives the product, cannel at 6 *s.*?—Yes.

4154. Yours, and breeze, is 2 *s.*?—Yes.

4155. Dr. Frankland gives tar and liquor at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Yes.

4156. Yours is, tar 10 gallons, 10 *d.*?—Yes.

4157. Nine gallons, 13·5 *d.*?—Yes.

4158. And 21 gallons of liquor 3·6 *d.*?—Yes.

4159. Then Dr. Frankland's total is 11½ *d.* products, to be deducted, leaving a balance of 2 *s.* 8¼ *d.*; which, taken from 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, leaves 9¾ *d.* per 1,000 profit; which would be equal to a dividend of 6 *l.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.* per cent. upon a capital of 6*l.* 6 *s.* per ton of coal?—Yes.

4160. Your products come to 7·45 *d.*, leaving a cost of 40·51 *d.*; which, taken from 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, leaves 1·49 *d.* profit, being equal to a dividend of under 1 per cent. upon the capital, taken per ton of coal, realised from the manufacture of 16·2 candle gas, instead of 18 candle; is that correct?—Yes.

4161. Now, with regard to the deposit of hydro-carbons in your pipes; is it the fact that 1,000 yards is the limit at which the hydro-carbons are deposited from cannel gas?—No.

4162. What is the greatest distance at which you find the deposit of hydro-carbons?—The most distant consumer in our district——

4163. How far is that distant from your works?—About six miles.

4164. You find hydro-carbons there, do you?—We find what they call hydro-carbons.

4165. Do you take the best methods for preventing the deposit of hydro-carbons?—Yes, certainly.

4166. Is it increasingly difficult to prevent it in cannel as compared with common gas?—We are more liable to it.

4167. Do you adopt the best known means for preventing your gas deteriorating in value on leaving the works?—Yes.

4168. We have heard it stated that it is sent too hot into the pipes; that you do not take proper measures for cooling it; is that true?—No, of course not; if the gas is not properly condensed it cannot be properly purified.

4169. Do you know of any means that are neglected in your works for giving the best supply of gas to the public at the cheapest possible rate?—Not any.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster*.

Mr. *L. W. Pritchard.*

6 June 1867.

4170. How many tons of coal did you use last year?—You have that from the evidence of Mr. Barber, I think.

4171. But give it to me; I see coals, including carriage and so on, 46,000 *l.* odd?—Yes.

4172. How many tons were there?—39,657.

4173. Is that cannel?—It is cannel, with the exception of 1 per cent. in round numbers, 1·4.

4174. That 46,000 *l.* odd, how much is it per ton?—I have it not here; I think you have it; it is 23 *s.* 3½ *d.*

4175. What are the residual products; how much gas was made from that?—409,950,120.

4176. That was about 10·377 cubic feet per ton?—Yes.

4177. Now, what were the residual products?—Do you mean per 1,000 feet?

4178. Yes, per 1,000 feet; or take it per ton?—5 *s.* 8 *d.*

4179. Taking off the 5 *s.* 8 *d.* from the 23 *s.* 3 *d.* would leave 17 *s.* 7 *d.* as the cost of the coal?—Yes.

4180. That would be 10,379 feet at 1 *s.* 9 *d.* per 1,000 feet?—I have no doubt you are correct.

4181. Upon those data the cost would be 1 *s.* 9 *d.* per 1,000 feet?—I think that was given, but I do not know; "Coals less product 24·75 on gas sold."

4182. Now, that is the cost of the gas made?—I have given you the gas sold.

4183. But I have just taken the cost of the gas made on those figures?—I have not got got it.

4184. But you do not dispute any of those figures, do you?—I have no doubt you are correct, but it is a question of arithmetic.

4185. The cost of gas is 1 *s.* 9 *d.* per 1,000 feet, though in the paper which you have signed you have put it in at 2 *s.* 2 *d.* Look on page 16 of the correspondence, at that paper which bears your name, and which has 18 candle gas?—Yes.

4186. The cost is 2 *s.* 2 *d.* there?—Yes.

4187. And yours is 20 candle gas, of which the cost appears to be 1 *s.* 9 *d.*?—Yes.

4188. What is your capital per ton of coal carbonised?—Our capital per ton of coal carbonised is a little under 8 *l.* per ton; 7 *l.* 8 *s.*

4189. What is your capital?—You have had it from Mr. Barber.

4190. But we want to test the accuracy of your figures?—I do not go into the finances, I believe it is 300,000 *l.*

4191. The number of tons of coal used in 1866 was how much?—39,657 *l.* tons.

4192. That would be very nearly 10 *l.* capital on a ton of coal carbonised?—

Mr. *Michael.*] I submit that this is a matter of calculation on the figures before the Committee.

Chairman.] You are quite right to leave out everything that is matter of calculation on the figures before us, or which is matter of argument.

4193. Mr. *Rodwell.*] That would be about 10 *l.* per ton of coal carbonised?—I dare say, but I have not gone into that; we sell the gas at per candle, just the same as the South Metropolitan, whose capital is 4 *l.* per ton of coal carbonised.

4194. May I take it that it is between 9 *l.* and 10 *l.* per ton of coal carbonised?—It may be so.

4195. That is a good deal above the general average, is it not?—Yes.

4196. Does that arise from your having had rather an unusual expenditure on the works?—I am not aware of any; not in my time.

4197. Has no portion of your works been reconstructed?—Not in my time that I am aware of.

4198. Did a Mr. Alexander Wright have anything to do with the works?—Yes.

4199. Did he not reconstruct the works, they having been originally constructed by Mr. Palmer?—No; he reconstructed a gas-holder.

4200. Is

4200. Is that all; had you a gas-holder of 120 feet, of which the roof burst?—Yes.

4201. Was that the one?—Yes.

4202. What was the cost of reconstructing it?—3,000 *l.* or 4,000 *l.*, I think.

4203. When was that done?—About 1855 or 1856.

4204. Had you not to alter the machinery for purifying gas by steam?—No.

4205. Do you purify gas by steam?—No.

4206. Did you ever?—No.

4207. Never?—No.

4208. You have no machinery for that purpose?—No.

4209. You have changed your principle of constructing the retorts, have you not?—No; we use clay instead of iron.

4210. Did you begin with iron?—Yes.

4211. And now you have clay, you say?—Yes.

4212. When was the change made?—I think it began in 1853.

4213. What was the cost of that?—I cannot say, but it was less than the renewal of the iron would have been.

4214. But did it not require a different system of setting?—No, not the original retort-house; we did ultimately adopt a different setting.

4215. But is the alteration in the existing works an addition to the capital already sunk?—Very likely it would be some addition.

4216. In what year did you begin to pay a dividend?—I know nothing about the dividends.

4217. Now, the last witness's attention was called to the increase of cost of manufacture. In June 1865, it appears at page 342 of the Blue Book of last year, and in the Return put in the other day for 1866. Can you give any explanation of the increased cost of manufacture?—I do not know what returns have been given; the make per ton has decreased, apparently; but you will understand that when the price of cannel was much lower than it is now we used to have a liberal allowance of ingrain; that is to say, the colliery weight instead of the net weight; but since the coal has gone up in price the ingrain has got smaller by degrees.

4218. *Chairman.*] The nominal ton represented a larger quantity then than it does now, I suppose?—Yes.

4219. Mr. *Rodwell.*] Yours is exclusively a cannel gas company, is it not?—It is.

4220. Is it not the fact that the capital necessary for establishing a cannel gas company is less than that of an ordinary coal gas company?—No, I do not find it so.

4221. But the illuminating power is much greater, is it not?—Yes.

4222. Your capital is about nearly 10 *l.* per ton of the coal carbonised; 9 *l.* or 10 *l.*; but cannel coal produces a larger quantity of gas and a higher illuminating power, does it not?—Yes.

4223. Are there any increases of cost in the manufacture of gas incident to the cannel?—Yes.

4224. Is it dearer to manufacture than ordinary coal gas?—Yes.

4225. You find it so?—Yes.

4226. Therefore, per ton, the extent of the works, and the capital required on the works, would be less?—If you divide it by the illuminating power of the gas, it is so, but that is no test.

4227. But, looking at the increased illuminating power, and the increased quantity per ton, the capital necessary for establishing cannel works would be less than for establishing a coal gas company, would it not?—Theoretically, perhaps, it would, but in practice it is not so.

4228. Has it not been found so in the Western Company?—No; and I believe not in other companies.

4229. But speak for the Western Company only; will you tell us whether a company starting afresh to manufacture cannel gas could not do with a less capital than a company starting for coal gas?—Probably that would be so with common gas beginning afresh. We have the experience of the past to guide us, otherwise the world would not go on.

4230. *Chairman.*] But the learned Counsel asks whether, if you were going to create new works, you could create them with less capital, if they were to furnish a district with cannel gas, than you could if they were to furnish a dis-

Mr. *L. W. Pritchard.*

6 June 1867.

trict with coal gas?—I would pay no respect whatever in laying out works to the quality of the gas.

4231. Mr. *Rodwell.*] Does cannel gas require more to purify than coal gas?—Yes.

4232. It costs a higher price, and requires a larger apparatus?—Yes.

4233. Regard being had to the illuminating power?—No; regard being had simply to the volume, the wear and tear is greater.

4234. The fire is pretty much the same, is it not, or is cannel gas made at a higher temperature?—You have more volatile matter to get out of a ton of coal involving larger fuel and larger furnaces.

4235. Is the temperature higher?—No.

4236. Is it as high?—It is about the same.

4237. You say that you require larger works and a larger volume; what is the proportionate increase of volume?—I did not mention the volume to you, I think; I said larger furnaces and larger apparatus.

4238. Why do you require larger furnaces and larger apparatus?—For the reason that I have given.

4239. Will you give it me again?—The volatile matter that you do eliminate out of a ton of coal is greater, involves a greater amount of fuel and larger furnaces, and the coke given by the cannel gas itself, being of an inferior kind, is also an element in the case.

4240. What do you say is the difference in volume, per ton, from cannel and coal, the gas being carbonised at nearly the same temperature?—Perhaps about 8 per cent.

4241. Then I suppose that the retorts and other works must be 8 per cent. larger?—No, the furnaces would be so, and the wear and tear of the destructive part of the plant would be more, but the retort and the retort-house need not be 8 per cent. larger; probably the purifying apparatus would be so.

4242. The retort and the retort-house would be of the same dimensions, that is to say, they might be?—They might be.

4243. But the purifying apparatus and the gas-holder must be increased 8 per cent., for the reason that a larger number of cubic feet is generated from cannel than from coal at the same temperature?—That does not follow.

4244. You said that 8 per cent. was the increase?—Yes.

4245. Then do you say that the retorts and the retort-house may be of the same cubic contents?—Yes.

4246. But it must increase the cubic contents of the purifier?—Yes, I think so.

4247. To the extent of 8 per cent.?—I dare say.

4248. Having got that increase of the purifier to the extent of 8 per cent., what would be the increase in the cubic contents of the gas-holder?—None.

4249. Mr. *Webster* (through the *Committee*).] Is there any other part of the premises or apparatus for the manufacture of gas that would require to be increased by reason of the increased volume of gas given off per ton carbonised except the purifiers?—Probably not.

4250. You do not want so large an amount of pipage for cannel gas as for common coal gas, do you?—It makes no difference in the laying of the mains.

4251. What do you take as a fair average illuminating power of gas from a ton of Newcastle coal?—Twelve candles.

4252. Yours is 20 candle gas, is it not?—Yes.

4253. You would lay down mains of the same dimensions, you say?—Yes.

4254. What is the ordinary dimension of your mains?—Our trunk mains are 24 inches, 18 inches, 12 inches, and 10 inches.

4255. Is 10 inches the smallest trunk that you have?—Yes.

4256. If you have to light a district, seeing how much greater the illuminating power of cannel is, surely you need not have mains of the same size?—Theoretically, perhaps not; but I would make no difference, and never did make any difference.

4257. I suppose you mean that if you laid out works without regard to economy, you would make no difference?—No, I mean *with* regard to economy.

4258. To supply the same amount of light you would lay down the same sized mains, although the illuminating power of the gas was 20 candles to 12?—I would.

4259. What

Mr. *L. W. Pritchard.*

6 June 1867.

4259. What is about the cost of the pipage, I mean the portion of the capital due to pipage?—I think it is about one-third.

4260. The cost of the mains for distribution is about one-third, you think?—I think so, speaking off hand.

4261. Can you tell us what it is in your own works?—No.

4262. You cannot sever the cost of distribution from the cost of purifying and storage?—No.

4263. That gas-holder that you spoke of, 120 feet in diameter, was rather an unusually large one, was it not?—No.

4264. Mr. *Hardy.*] There would be no economy in laying down mains for one particular sort of gas?—No.

4265. It might fail?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. *Michael.*

4266. But there is economy in having large mains, for you diminish the leakage by diminishing the pressure?—Yes.

4267. And there is an extra expense incurred owing to the different heating power of cannel as compared with the Newcastle coal?—Yes, in the coke as fuel.

4268. You want a different kind of furnace, and sometimes two furnaces, to feed the retorts, do you not?—I have only one, but it is a large one.

4269. And it involves considerable extra cost compared with ordinary gas, does it not?—Yes.

4270. I believe that you found it a great improvement adopting clay retorts as over iron retorts?—Very great improvement.

4271. You were bound to adopt clay instead of iron in improving your works, were you not?—No doubt we were, and the cost price of the gas was reduced in consequence.

4272. That is not charged to the capital, is it?—No, renewals are not charged to capital.

4273. You have been asked one question with regard to the cost which you have given as an estimate of the 18 candle gas, and the actual cost of producing 20 candle gas; in the one case you have coal at 21 *s.* 4 *d.* and 20 *s.*, and in the other you have estimated it at 25 *s.* and 26 *s.*?—Yes.

4274. That accounts for the apparent difference?—Yes, besides that was an estimate for London generally; my working is better than that, and my results are better, owing to local advantages.

4275. You get an exceptionally good price for your coke?—Yes.

4276. What would you put down as the general average for cannel coke?—Other engineers give 5 *s.* as the average price.

4277. You get 10 *s.* a ton for it?—Yes, I get cannel at 26 *s.*; the common coal is put down in this estimate at 16 *s.*; I have to pay for common coal 17 *s.* 6 *d.*, I am more favourably placed for cannel coal than common coal.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *John Rofe*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Michael.*

Mr. *J. Rofe.*

4278. You are a Gas Engineer, I believe?—I was.

4279. You have had great experience in the manufacture of cannel gas, have you not?—Yes.

4279*. You are consulting engineer to the Wigan Cannel Gas Company, and other Gas Companies, I believe?—I was for 13 years at Wigan, until last year.

4280. What is your experience with regard to the making of 20 candle gas, with respect to the class of coal required?—It requires cannel nearly or entirely all. The picked cannel would make rather more.

4281. To make 20 candle gas, is it required that it should, in reality, be made of a higher illuminating power?—To send it out into the pipes, it does.

4282. Can you give any results specially applicable to cannel coal?—Cannel coal is charged with a larger quantity of hydro-carbon; they are deposited when the gas cools, and as it goes along the pipes it deposits those hydro-carbons, which, of course, decrease the illuminating power.

Mr. *J. Rofe.*

6 June 1867.

4283. Do cannel coal in your experience fluctuate very much in different parts, with regard to the illuminating power?—Considerably.

4284. Is it much more liable to fluctuation than ordinary coal?—Yes.

4285. Have you examined the state of the works of Western Gas Company?—Yes.

4286. Are the works conducted in a satisfactory way, in your opinion?—Quite so.

4287. Do you know that the unaccounted-for gas is 17 per cent?—Yes.

4288. Do you consider that excessive for cannel gas?—No, not in a large district like that.

4289. Can any process be adopted which would prevent the deposit of hydro-carbons?—I am not aware of any, nor do I believe that anything could be done even to diminish it much.

4290. After the gas has travelled 1,000 yards, is there a continual, but increasing ratio of loss of illuminating power as the gas through the mains?—I have no doubt there is a loss of illuminating power, let the gas go as far as it will.

4291. All through the mains it is continually losing its illuminating power?—Yes; I give that strongly, because at the extreme end of the main the meter will get to smell strongly of the hydro-carbons.

4292. *Chairman.*] Do you give it as your opinion, that, practically, a test at a distance of 1,000 yards is not a sufficient test;—I think it is; but I believe at the extreme end of the main it decreases a little; it must be the case, because the hydro-carbon is deposited.

4293. However that may be theoretically, what opinion do you wish the Committee to take from you; is it practically a sufficient test at a distance of 1,000 yards?—I think it is a fair and practical test.

4294. Mr. *Michael.*] Now, with regard to the supply of cannel coal, do you know whether the price has been increasing of late or not?—Possibly it has; I do not know; I am not in the profession now.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

4295. You told my learned friend that cannel coal varies more in quality with regard to the illuminating power than ordinary coal?—I spoke guardedly, because I have tried coal in various parts, and it varies very materially; I am not speaking of Newcastle coal.

4296. You answered my learned friend that there was a greater variation in cannel than ordinary coal?—From the same pit.

4297. The seams of cannel extend over a very large district in Lancashire, do they not?—Yes.

4298. Are they mixed with other coal, or is it all cannel?—Generally speaking it is all cannel.

4299. But the particular pits of cannel vary in quality more than the pits of ordinary coal, is that so?—Yes.

4300. Is your measure of the variation the illuminating power?—Partially the illuminating power and partially the make; some cannels will produce more gas than others.

4301. It is convenient, I suppose, to take the number of candles as the standard?—Yes.

4302. What is the greatest number of candles that you have known produced from the Lancashire cannel?—From the best picked Lancashire cannel I have seen 24 candles made in iron retorts.

4303. Do you know the seams called the Ince Hall and the Hayes seam?—Yes; the Hayes seam is the one I have mentioned.

4304. Have you not known 26 candle gas to be produced from that?—I never saw it.

4305. It is a very good seam, is it not?—Yes.

4306. Did you ever test the illuminating power of the Hayes seam?—Yes, that is 24 candles; that is the very one I alluded to as picked cannel; all cannel.

4307. You were formerly engineer to the Preston Gas Company, were you not?—Yes.

4308. You

4308. You are not now in practice?—No, I have not been at Preston for six years.

4309. You ceased to practise about that time, I suppose?—No, I ceased to practise more recently than that.

4310. But you answered as if you were giving evidence as a witness to character, on my learned friend asking whether you thought the statements of the Western Company were put in a satisfactory way. Do you know anything but what appears on the paper?—No, not professionally.

4311. That answer was confined to what you had read in that way?—To what I obtained from the returns.

4312. On an inspection of that paper, you think things are satisfactory?—Yes, and on an inspection of the works to see whether I thought them sufficient or not.

4313. There has been a good deal of money spent on the works, has there not; when were you there?—I was there yesterday, but I had been there before.

4314. When were you there last?—Yesterday.

4315. Was it then that this paper was put into your hands?—No; I saw it before.

4316. When was it put into your hands?—On Tuesday, I think.

4317. You went to the works yesterday?—Yes.

4318. When were you there before?—It is three or four years ago; I was a shareholder in the company, but I am not now in any company.

4319. You sold out?—Yes.

4320. You did not like the alteration of the works, I suppose?—No; I did not like the agitations that were going on.

4321. Will you tell me whether there have not been very considerable alterations made in the works?—Not since I knew them.

4322. Did you ever know the works as they were constructed originally by Mr. Palmer?—That is long before I had shares in the company.

4323. It was about the year 1850, was it not?—That was before I had shares in the company.

4324. You know nothing of it, then?—Nothing except by hearsay.

4325. Shareholders hear if money is very badly spent in reconstructing works, do they not?—I was not a shareholder then; I lived in Lancashire.

4326. Has there not been a great deal of pulling down and alteration, and a considerable amount of money expended on those works?—Not more than usual, for gas works are bound to keep up with the improvements of the time.

4327. Looking to what has taken place in their works, do you think that a capital of from 9 *l.* to 10 *l.* per ton is reasonable; did you look at the paper to see what the capital was per ton of coal carbonised?—No.

4328. If it is over 9 *l.* per ton of coal carbonised, you would think that rather extravagant, would you not?—It might be so, but there is a great deal of the work which has not come into operation yet.

4329. There is a good future for it, you think?—Yes.

4330. There is a good time coming even if they take off one shilling in the price of gas?—I do not know, there is room for improvement, there are enlargements.

4331. I understand you to say that if there should have been as much as 9 *l.* or 10 *l.* of capital per ton of coal carbonised, you think there has been so much work done there that it is not excessive?—I think not.

4332. You think that it will pay a very good dividend, I suppose?—I will not say anything about that.

4333. With regard to this variation in the quality of cannel coal for the illuminating power, I suppose that would be represented by the variation of the price in the market?—Not altogether; we used to have tenders for the various qualities, and they were pretty much the same price.

4334. The people having the coal, put pretty much the same price on it, but you, the knowing ones, paid what suited your views for it?—Of course we did.

4334*. With reference to the falling off in the illuminating power, do I rightly understand you to say that the hydro-carbons will continue to be deposited through any length of main; that though, at 1,000 feet the principal part may be deposited, and, therefore, that may be a good point of distance at which to measure the illuminating power, you say at 2,000, and 3,000, and 4,000 feet, there

Mr. *J. Rofe.*

6 June 1867.

there would still be a loss in illuminating power?—I can speak to four miles, though I never tested that loss by the photometer; but I know it must be so, because we find hydro-carbons in the meters.

4335. The cannel coal distils at a less temperature than the common coal?—I do not think it; we could work it the same, but at most works they work at a higher temperature.

4336. Supposing that you had cannel gas with an illuminating power of 20 candles at 1,000 feet from the works, what would be the loss in candles at 5,000 or 6,000 feet?—That I cannot tell you.

4337. You have no idea of that?—No.

4338. You know that there is a loss, and must be a loss, because you find that hydro-carbons are deposited in the meters?—Yes.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Hugh Bartholomew,* Examined by Mr. *Michael.*

Mr. *H. Bartholomew.*

4339. You are a Gas Engineer, and, I believe, Manager of the Glasgow City and Suburban Gas Company?—Yes.

4340. And have been so many years?—Yes.

4341. That is a cannel gas company?—Entirely a cannel gas company.

4342. You have also been with the Liverpool Gas Company?—I was.

4343. Your company has been returned as a 30 candle company; is that right?—28 candles is what we pretend to give.

4344. Is that at the works?—That is at the works.

4345. Does your gas suffer deterioration by traversing the pipes?—I am not aware.

4346. Does it deposit hydro-carbons on its way?—Yes, in the whole length of our pipes.

4347. At 1,000 yards, though there would be a considerable deposit, still that is not all the deposit and deterioration of the gas that takes place through the whole length of your pipe?—It continues as long as the pipe goes.

4348. What does your cannel coal cost you?—For the year ending 1866 it was 14 *s.* a ton.

4349. That is the coal from which you get the 27 or 28 candle gas?—Yes.

4350. Is it Lismahagow?—No, we get about 20 different kinds; this is the average of the whole, 14 *s.* a ton.

4351. Is it rising in price?—Yes, it is rising very much just now.

4352. Have you any means of accounting for that?—The agitation in London is the cause of it.

4353. What effect has it had upon your company?—An increase of price, varying from 4 *s.* 8 *d.* to 6 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton.

4354. What is your price now for gas?—4 *s.* 2 *d.* per 1,000, with 15 per cent. discount to large consumers; the average being about 3 *s.* 10 *d.*

4355. Will you, with the rising price of coal, be able to continue to supply at that rate?—No, we should require an additional 10 *d.* per 1,000.

4356. You propose to raise the price 10 *d.* per 1,000?—It has not come before our board yet; but we will have to do it.

4357. Do the same coals differ very much in quality in different parcels?—Yes.

4358. Does the condition in which they come to the works materially influence the illuminating power you can obtain from them?—Yes; some coals of the same seams are a great deal better than others.

4359. How many thousand feet a ton on the average do you make?—9,000 on the average.

4360. Do you use Newcastle coal?—No, no common coal.

4361. I believe your Parliamentary standard is 10 candles?—Yes.

4362. What does the cost of your coal work out at per 1,000 feet?—19·36 *d.*

4363. What do you get for your products?—5·757 *d.*

4364. What does that leave?—13·603 *d.* per 1,000.

4365. What price do you get for your coke?—5 *s.* per ton for what is fit to be

be sold; about half of the residuum of the coal we use we have to send out as rubbish, it being of no value.

4366. How much do you get per ton?—Supposing we were using all the best quality, such as Lismahagow, we would get 12 cwt. out of the ton.

4367. How many furnaces have you?—Two furnaces for five retorts.

4368. Do you find that the most economical mode of working?—Yes.

4369. Your works require to be larger than ordinary gas works, because two furnaces are necessary instead of one?—It is not much extra expense; it is only the extra expense for fuel.

4370. Two furnaces take up more space, I suppose, than one?—No, they are underneath the retorts, so that no more space is occupied.

4371. You say that the cost of the coal less the products is 13·603 *d.*; does the total cost of your manufacture come to 26·753 *d.*, manufacture and coal included?—Yes.

4372. Your management is 1·97 2*d.*?—Yes.

4373. Your receipts are 46·39 *d.* per 1,000; your distribution is 1·939*d.*; law and Parliamentary charges, 0·261 *d.*; leasehold redemption, 1·296 *d.*; total expenditure, 32·221 *d.*: that leaves you a profit of 14·169 *d.*?—Yes.

4374. I believe your dividend is 10 per cent. and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—10 per cent. on 150,000 *l.*, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ upon 50,000 *l.*

4375. You have interest upon borrowed capital 1·050*d.*; dividend, at 10 per cent., and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 11·951 *d.*; balance for reserve fund, 1·162 *d.*; total, 14·163 *d.*?—Yes.

4376. How much extra is the cost of the coal in London beyond what you pay; is it 1 *s.* 3 *d.*?—Yes.

4377. Have you gone over the working of the Western Company?—I have.

4378. What is your opinion of their working?—The working expenses come as near as possible to our own; all the difference is the cost of the coal.

4379. Supposing the coal were the same price in London as at Glasgow, they could do precisely the same as you do?—Almost the same.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

4380. When you say that the working expenses in the Western Company are the same as yours, you refer to the accounts that have been shown you; you have not any particular experience of them yourself?—I go upon this statement, which has been handed to me by the Western Company.

4381. You say the working expenses are pretty much the same as yours?—Very much the same.

4382. What do you include in working expenses?—Supervision and labour is the important part of the working expenses, amounting to 7·18 *d.* per 1,000 feet in the case of our company, and to 7·10 *d.* in the case of the Western Company.

4383. That is, supervision and labour?—Yes, that includes salaries of the engineer, clerks of the works, stokers' and labourers' wages.

4384. Does it include the secretary's salary?—No.

4385. It includes strictly the supervision and labour for the manufacture, the engineer, and any superintendents you may have, and the wages of the daily and weekly labourers?—Yes.

4386. As regards distribution, what is the cost of that?—1·939 *d.* per 1,000.

4387. That is the same nearly as Glasgow?—That is Glasgow I am speaking of. The Western is 1·63 *d.* We are more than the Western.

4388. Your distribution is more than the Western?—Yes.

4389. What is the reason of that; there is not much difference in the population, is there; you are pretty thick in Glasgow?—We have a considerable extent of ground to go over.

4390. You are suburban as well?—Yes.

4391. Have you any competition in your district?—Yes, we have another company.

4392. You do not tread on each other's toes?—Each company has pipes in each street.

4393. Do you both supply each street?—Yes.

4394. Then there is competition?—Not a ruinous competition.

4395. A moderate agreement as to price?—Yes, we do not quarrel about price.

Mr. *H. Bartholomew.*

6 June 1867.

4396. You are very good friends, and do not tread on each other's toes, and you have got your pipes side by side?—We are constantly canvassing for customers.

4397. You agree as to price?—We do not compete as to price.

4398. Another witness has told us that your illuminating power is about the same?—Yes.

4399. You supply gas of about the same quality, and at the same price?—Yes.

4400. What is your total capital per ton carbonised?—I never tried that.

4401. What is your capital?—£. 200,000; we have 37,000 *l.* borrowed money.

4402. How many tons of coal did you carbonise last year?—I have not the statement of that; it would be about 45,000 tons.

4403. How much gas do you make?—I have not that.

4404. How much did you sell?—We sold 370,000,000.

4405. How much unaccounted for?—About 14 per cent.

4406. You paid 10 per cent.?—10 per cent. upon 150,000 *l.*, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ upon 50,000 *l.*; the borrowed money we pay $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest upon.

4407. When were you last in Parliament?—In 1865, I think.

4408. How much do you say you get for the coke you sell?—We get 5 *s.* a ton for that which is of good quality.

4409. There is a great deal of difference in the quality of cannel coal, is there not?—A great difference.

4410. To what extent of illuminating power is the difference in the cannel?—You can go from 20 to 45 candles.

4411. What kind of coal gives you 45 candles?—The Boghead.

4412. Do you use much of that?—Not now; it is all made into oil now.

4413. If the oil trade should stop, you would have it back again?—There is not much to come back; it is about done.

4414. There is an immense field of cannel in Scotland, is there not?—There is a large quantity of cannel in Scotland.

4415. You say that it varies very much in quality; what is the difference of price of the different qualities of cannel?—One kind we pay 12 *s.* for, and another kind 26 *s.* 6 *d.*, and another we can get for 8 *s.* 6 *d.*

4416. The price went up in consequence of this competition in London?—Coal that we are paying 12 *s.* for, we were paying 7 *s.* for.

4417. I suppose there are plenty of more pits to be opened?

Chairman.] That we do not go into.

4418. Mr. *Webster.*] What do you get for your tar liquor?—5·75 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

4419. What do you get for your residual products?—That is the residual products.

4420. How many miles of main have you?—I could not give you that.

4421. My learned friend asked you about the size of your works; have you had any experience of common coal gas?—We have never used common coal at all.

4422. Have you had any experience in works using common coal?—No.

4423. I suppose you agree with the last witness, that the capital necessary to start cannel works is considerably less than that which is required to start ordinary coal works?—There cannot be much difference.

4424. Not if one is to make 24 candle gas and the other 12?—If you make nearly the same quantity out of the coal, there cannot be any difference, except that the purifying of the cannel is more expensive than the common coal.

4425. Volume for volume, it would be about the same?—Yes.

4426. The cannel coal, you heard the last witness say, yields about 8 per cent. more than the common coal?—Yes, I heard him say so.

4427. *Chairman.*] What is the quantity of coal carbonised by your company?—About 45,000 tons.

4428. You say you have two companies in Glasgow, and though you do not quarrel about the price you each supply gas in the same district?—Yes.

4429. Would your cost of distribution be much reduced if there was a districting system as there is in London?—It would; it would save expense in pipes, and it would save expense in collecting.

4430. It would be a considerable economy?—Yes.

Mr.

Mr. *Webster.*] As regards coal and capital, the figure is just 5·10 *l.* per ton of coal carbonised.

Mr. *H. Bartholomew.*

6 June 1867.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Michael.*] We have a good many witnesses who would give evidence as to the increase in the price of cannel coal throughout the country. I do not know to what extent the Committee would like us to go in tendering that evidence.

Chairman.] I put the question to Mr. Webster whether he disputed the fact that the rise has been what you state it to have been, and I understood him to state that it had been. If it is not disputed, we may take it as a matter of fact.

Mr. *Webster.*] I understood you to ask whether I disputed the fact of that particular price having been paid, but I should not be prepared to assent to any particular scale of rise of price.

Chairman.] I presume the only object of proving a rise in price is to lead us to an inference with regard to the probable future cost of making either common coal gas or cannel coal gas; and it seems to me, as the prices at which cannel coal and common coal have been sold from time to time in London are matters of public notoriety, it might easily be agreed in five minutes between the Counsel what might be taken to be the facts with regard to the quoted prices of cannel and common coal, and it cannot be necessary to produce a series of witnesses before us in slow detail to prove that.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We will endeavour to get some accord upon that subject, but I do not know how far my learned friend may be disposed to help us. There is one thing to be borne in mind which has been stated by the last witness and the witness preceding him, namely, that what is quoted as cannel coal varies in illuminating power enormously, and that if it were sold for another purpose than gas making, it is evident that the quotation would not be one upon which you could rely.

Chairman.] We shall be ready to receive evidence upon any point which is of so much importance to your argument that it is really controverted between you.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We will endeavour to come to an agreement; if we cannot, we shall then give evidence supporting our view.

Mr. *Dugald Campbell,* examined by Mr. *Michael.*

Mr. *D. Campbell.*

4431. You are an Analytical Chemist?—I am.

4432. And you were formerly Lecturer upon and Demonstrator of Chemistry in the University College, London?—I was.

4433. I believe for 20 years you have given attention to the manufacture and purification of gas?—I have.

4434. Do you agree with Dr. Frankland, that you can get 10,000 cubic feet of 15 candle gas from Newcastle coal?—I have made experiments upon that point, and have never been able to get more than 9,000 cubic feet of about 12 candle gas.

4435. Have you seen the evidence given by Dr. Frankland as to the diminution of illuminating power by the admission of atmospheric air into the pipes?—Yes.

4436. What is your opinion upon that point?—I do not agree with him at all, for the reason that the gas in the pipes, when being supplied, is always under pressure; and if there is a fissure in the pipes, and the gas is escaping out of them, I do not see how any air can gain admission into the pipes. Assuming that there is no pressure in the pipes, and that the pipes are at the same pressure inside as outside, I can understand that the law of diffusion would operate, as stated by Dr. Frankland.

Mr. *D. Campbell.*

6 June 1867.

4437. The law of diffusion of gases would not come into operation unless there were equal pressure?—No.

4438. The pressure being so diverse, there would be an escape of gas but not an admission of atmospheric air?—Just so.

4439. Have you turned your attention to the distance at which hydro-carbons are deposited in the pipes?—I have; and the result of my experience is that as far as the gas is carried, the hydro-carbons are deposited; I have found them at a distance from the works of six miles.

4440. Is it the fact that the higher the illuminating power the greater is the tendency to the deposit of hydro-carbons?—It is so.

4441. Therefore in cannel gas there would be a greater deposit than in ordinary gas?—Yes.

4442. And probably at a much longer distance?—At a much longer distance.

4443. Would 1,000 yards be any test as to illuminating power?—Decidedly not.

4444. If you wanted to supply 20 candle gas at six miles off, you must make a corresponding allowance for that diminution at your works?—You would require to send it out at a much higher illuminating power.

4445. Is there any process that you know of, in the present state of science, that would prevent that deposition?—None whatever.

4446. Is that deposit attributable to defective working?—It is not.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Webster.*

4447. Is it your opinion that there is a deposit of hydro-carbons continuously bearing some relation to the distance?—Yes.

4448. Can you give us any illustration of the deposit at various distances?—I could show you, for instance, samples of water that have been taken from meters six miles from the works with a deposit of hydro-carbon in them.

4449. I want to get at some practical test which we can understand; the deposit of these hydro-carbons is *pro tanto* a diminution of illuminating power?—Decidedly.

4450. Take, for instance, 1,000 yards from the works, the principal amount of deposit would have taken place before you arrived at that distance?—A large amount of the deposit, but I would not say the principal amount of the deposit.

4451. Assuming the gas made is 20 candle gas at the works, what would be the illuminating power at 100,000 yards?—It would be only guess work if I were to give it; I should be inclined to think there would be a diminution of a candle and a half or two candles.

4452. Assuming that the deterioration of illuminating power was as two candles for the first 1,000 yards, what would it be at five or six miles?—I should think four or five candles; it all depends upon the temperature.

4453. Let us go by degrees: may we take it at a candle a mile?—No, I think, for instance, for the first mile it would be more than a candle, perhaps.

4454. You think for two miles it would be more than a candle?—Perhaps two candles or three candles.

4455. Did it never occur to you to make those experiments?—I have never made those experiments, but I have got samples of oils at various times in large quantities.

4456. From the gas?—From the mains.

4457. At different parts of the the mains?—Yes.

4458. My learned friend rebuked me for not allowing you to produce the samples of water which you said had been taken from a long distance from the works; will you produce them?—You were asking me for an illustration of the deposit that takes place at certain distances, and I thought there was nothing so good as showing the thing. This *(producing it)* is a sample of water taken from a meter six miles away from the works, and if it is allowed to rest, you will see the oil collect on the top; there is also some in solution.

4459. Have you any other samples of water?—No; I have samples of oil deposited at various parts. This *(producing the same)* is a portion of a sample I had from Edinburgh, a considerable time ago. This *(producing another sample)* is another; it has the same smell as gas.

4460. Were

4460. Were both those from Edinburgh?—No; one is from Edinburgh, and the other from London.

4461. Where did the London one come from?—It was sent to me from the Western Gas Company.

4462. For what purpose?—For the purpose of analysis, some months ago, not for this inquiry at all.

4463. What was the precise purpose it was sent to you for?—To ascertain what was the amount of benzole in it. Benzole is rather a light oil, and a valuable oil, and it was supposed that these were light oils deposited in the pipes; but it turned out that the reverse was the case, and that they were heavy oils, boiling at a rather high temperature.

4464. The object with which that liquid was sent to you was that you should report as a chemist upon the commercial value of the product?—Yes.

4465. Those residual products have risen very much in value of late years, have they not?—Residual products at the present time are worth very little; this product is worth very little indeed; my advice to the company was to get rid of it at anything they could get for it.

4466. Residual products are down now, a good deal; but they have been valuable, have they not?—Yes, very.

4467. How is it that they are down now?—I do not know; I think the Continent sends a large quantity of those products; benzole and aniline come in large quantities from the Continent.

4468. Has the agitation sent down the value of gas products, as well as gas shares?—I do not know anything about the value of gas shares.

4469. As a matter of fact, the residual products have gone down in price?—They are, comparatively speaking, of little value to what they were; for instance, that which was worth 3 *s.* some time ago, is not now worth 10 *d.*

4470. In fact, residual products have become a drug, almost?—Yes.

4471. Owing to the improved manufacture of gas?—I do not know what it is owing to.

4472. The gas companies have improved the manufacture of gas, have they not?—I cannot say.

4473. You have had great experience; have not there been various processes introduced by which the manufacture of gas has been very much improved?—I do not know that there have been any improved processes the last 10 years.

4474. Not in the Western Gas Company?—The Western Company has introduced all the modern appliances, in fact, more than most works, because, besides purifying with oxide of iron they use lime purification.

4475. They are a very good works?—Yes.

4476. You do not apply your sweeping observation as to the small value of residual products to coke?—No.

4477. You are speaking of the chemicals?—I am speaking of the liquid products.

4478. As to that water, where did that come from?—This came from the meter of the Egyptian Hall.

4479. I suppose the character of the water would depend a good deal upon how long the meter had been in use?—Yes, if I had been going to draw it off I should have been able to get more oil from it, because on inquiring from the workman I found he did not take it at the top of the water as I should have done, but from the overflow pipe.

4480. As a matter of fact, if you are to have water produced from a meter, all the circumstances under which it was taken ought to be known to you?—Yes, I made inquiries as far as I could from the man, who is a very intelligent workman.

4481. That water confirms the opinion you have given me as to a deposit of hydro-carbons to a great distance?—Yes.

4482. Does it prove any more than that?—Nothing more; I have a deposit of oil from a dry meter that has been sent to me, that is oil alone (*producing it*); this is a portion of a large quantity sent to me.

4483. From a dry meter?—Yes.

4484. Are those samples of any other value than as confirming the opinion you have already given that there is this deposit of hydro-carbons continuous, so to speak?—That is the object with which I produce them, and to show also

Mr. *D. Campbell.*

6 June 1867.

that they are of no value comparatively speaking; I have tried to make gas out of them myself.

4485. The market is down?—They are of no value comparatively speaking; I tried to produce gas by placing the liquid over pumicestone heated to a white heat; the quantity of gas was remarkably small, and the liquid distilled over unchanged.

4486. My learned friend asked you some questions which I did not understand, about what Dr. Frankland said about the diffusion of gases; did I understand you to tell my learned friend that what you call the law of diffusion did not come into operation unless the gases were in a state of unequal pressure?—No, it was the reverse; I said that unless the gases outside and inside were at the same pressure, the law of diffusion would not operate.

4487. The interchange which takes place between two gases takes place when they are in contact, or when they are merely separated by a slight diaphram under equal pressure?—That is so according to their gravities.

4488. You put the product of Newcastle coal at 9,000 cubic feet of 10 candles?—Twelve candles.

4489. What do you put the product of cannel at; what is your favourite cannel?—My favourite cannel is not the cannel, but the Boghead.

4490. If you were going to manufacture gas on the most economical commercial system, you would have the Boghead?—If I did not want to get any coke; you do not get any coke out of Boghead; to produce a good coke in London is of importance, because you get a good price for it; if you use Boghead you do not get coke.

4491. It is all illumination?—Yes.

4492. What is the illuminating power of Boghead?—Upwards of 40 candles.

4493. And 10,000 cubic feet?—Much more.

4494. What is the number of cubic feet you get out of a ton of Boghead?—Between 13,000 and 14,000 cubic feet of 40 to 45 candles, depending upon the sample of Boghead; I know the Boghead very well; one pit varies from another very much.

4495. Take the average; what is the average product from a ton of Boghead and the average illuminating power?—I will give you the best quality; if you selected the best quality of Boghead, you could get about 13,000 or 14,000 cubic feet of gas of 40 to 45 candles.

4496. Then you get no coke?—You would get coke of no value.

4497. Would you get any other residual products?—Comparatively speaking, yes, you would get a lot of oils; you would get paraffin oil.

4498. And valuable products, in fact?—Some of those oils are not now of much value.

4499. The market is down?—Yes; in fact there is very little Boghead being distilled now.

4500. There is plenty of Boghead left?—There is some.

4501. Passing from Boghead, what coal do you put as No. 2, if you were advising a company to establish gas works?—I would not advise them to distil Boghead; you ask me what is the coal giving the largest amount of gas, having the largest amount of illuminating power, and I say, the Boghead; then the next one I know of is the Leeswood cannel.

4502. Where does that come from?—Wales.

4503. What does that give, about?—If it is picked in the same way, it would give about 13,000 cubic feet of gas of about 40 candles.

4504. That is A 2; what do you put as A 3?—Then I should go to Scotland, to Fifeshire, to Lismahagow, perhaps.

4505. What do you put that at?—I have experimented upon it very often in distilling it, but I have never taken the illuminating power.

4506. It is very good, is not it?—Yes, it is very fair, but it gives a bad coke.

4507. What would you take as the next; would you go to the Lancashire fields?—Wigan is a very good coal.

4508. How many cubic feet a ton would Wigan coal produce?—The samples I have examined would have given about 12,000; I am speaking from memory now.

4509. Of what illuminating power?—I do not know; I never took the illuminating power.

4510. The

4510. The temperature at which the cannel coal distils is about the same as that at which common coal distils, is it not?—I should think it was about the same; I should have been inclined to think it would have been higher, and the time required less, because you have a larger quantity of gas.

4511. Looking at the cost of manufacture, as regards the cost of retorts and so forth, there would probably be no great difference?—That is an engineering question rather than a chemical one. I should have expected that there would have been very little difference. I know nothing about engineering questions.

4512. Looking to the future of gas manufacture, would you not think it expedient that the manufacture of cannel gas should be encouraged rather than common coal gas?—I myself am favourable to the encouragement of cannel gas.

Re-examined by Mr. *Michael.*

4513. Do you know the quantity of Leeswood cannel; is not it an almost infinitesimal quantity?—It is a small quantity.

4514. Do you know the price of Boghead coal?—I could not tell you what it is at present; I have known Boghead to be as high as 80 *s.* a ton.

4515. That is at Leith, without the carriage, is it not?—I think not.

4516. You mean in London?—I should think that was in London.

4517. What you have given as the product of Boghead would be from picked specimens?—From I what I would myself pick. I know the Boghead colliery very well; in fact, it is my brother-in-law's property, and I have been in the habit of picking pieces out of the pits. I do not mean to say that everybody would use the same sample as I should pick out.

4518. You must very much diminish your illuminating power if you take the average?—Much; some of the true Boghead does not give a gas of a higher illuminating power than that produced from Wigan coal; the Boghead varies in colour from black to light brown, and it is the dark colour that gives gas of the least illuminating power.

4519. *Chairman.*] Which is the dearer coal, the dark or the light?—The light; the light coal is richer than the dark; it is a sort of clay impregnated with bitumenous matter, and the more clayey the appearance of the coal the richer it is, and *vice versâ*; as it approaches nearer the colour of common coal it gets less bitumenous.

4520. Mr. *Webster.*] The great question was, whether it was a schist or a coal?—Yes.

4521. *Chairman.*] You have been asked about the loss of illuminating power in proportion to mileage traversed. You lay down, I think, the rule that in the first 1,000 yards there would be a much greater loss of illuminating power than in any subsequent 1,000 yards?—I have said so.

4522. Still, you wish us to understand that in every subsequent 1,000 yards there would be a considerable loss?—I do.

4523. Would it be a fair inference to draw from that, that, taking on the one hand the case of a country district with extensive mains, say extending for a distance of six miles, and on the other hand, the case of a metropolitan district very closely inhabited, there would be a much greater loss of illuminating power in the former case than in the latter?—That is my opinion.

4524. And there would be a greater economy in supplying the gas in the latter case than the former?—Yes.

4525. Mr. *Michael* (through the *Committee*).] Those oils are not, in fact, impurities in the gas, but the illuminating power made solid instead of being in the gaseous condition?—They are so.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Michael.*] Having struck off the other Witnesses whom we intended to call, that finishes our case.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I wish to bring under the notice of the Committee a circumstance which I was not acquainted with till this forenoon. You have the Bills of two companies before you, one the Chartered and the other the Imperial; it seems that Lord Redesdale's rule requires that those Bills should reach the Upper House upon the 18th of this month, at the latest; therefore the Bills will be imperilled unless they are taken at the earliest possible

6 June 1867.

possible opportunity by the Committee. As regards the Chartered Company's Bill, I am desired to strike out everything that could have any bearing upon the general inquiry; as, for instance, some questions about burners, some questions about illuminating power, and so on; so that now it stands as a Bill simply to authorise the construction of new works, for the raising of capital, and for the capitalisation of certain moneys.

Chairman.] I presume there would be some question as to the amount of capital to be raised, and the rate of interest at which the new capital should stand.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Yes; those we propose to deal with upon the ordinary footing; there is nothing in the Bill upon the subject, and we must have applied to us the general rules applicable to existing companies, with the further proviso that we should be bound by any legislation of a general kind affecting the other companies. The Imperial Bill is practically to the same effect. Under those circumstances, if the Committee took those Bills immediately after the holidays, they would see if they were Bills that they thought could be proceeded with before the general inquiry is concluded. I am told that the bulk of the opposition is not of a kind to occupy any length of time.

The *City Remembrancer* and Mr. *Rodwell* (representing petitioners against the Bills) stated that they had no objection to the course proposed.

Chairman.] Then we will take the Chartered Company's Bill and the Imperial Company's Bill on Monday week. (To Mr. *Michael.*) Do we understand you to say that you have produced all your evidence?

Mr. *Michael.*] Yes.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] After those Bills are disposed of you will, I presume, proceed with the general inquiry.

Mr. *Michael.*] I shall ask the Committee to allow me to put in a table of the dividends of all the companies throughout the country, or as many as we could get.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I should like to have some indication of the opinion of the Committee upon a point which has occurred several times in the inquiry. A quantity of tables have been published either last year or this; from time to time we have sought to give you abstracts of them. It would be a great convenience to everybody if we were to have those tables prepared and hand them in, subject to their being contested, and to our calling witnesses, if contested.

Mr. *Michael.*] That is what I propose to do.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] Will you give us copies before they are laid before the Committee?

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Yes.

Chairman.] It is not our object, in the smallest degree, to exclude any evidence; but it seems to be a waste of time to take things in detail which might be put before us in a minute, in an undisputed form.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] What we will endeavour to do is this: we will get everything we think material tabulated, and communicate our tables to the other side; then we will put in a witness, just to prove the tables.

[Adjourned to Monday, the 17th instant, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 18*th June* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

18 June 1867.

The *Chairman* reminded the parties that before the holidays it had been arranged when the Committee separated, that such facts as being really statistical in character and scarcely matters of controversy could be presented to the Committee in a tabular form instead of *vivâ voce* should be so presented, the parties on both sides agreeing upon the facts to be tabulated.

Mr. *Hope Scott* stated that the unexpectedly early termination of the first stages of the two private Bills had taken his clients a little by surprise, but that the intimation of the Committee should be attended to.

Mr. *Charles Edward Cawley*, Examined by Mr. *Hope Scott*.

Mr. *C. E. Cawley.*

4526. You are a Civil Engineer?—Yes.

4527. And an alderman of the borough of Salford?—Yes.

4528. The gas works there belong to the corporation, do they not?—Yes.

4529. And they are managed by a committee?—Yes, they are managed by a committee of the corporation.

4530. Are you the chairman of that committee?—I am the chairman of that committee.

4531. I believe that you have been a member of that committee for a good many years?—I have been a member of that committee ever since the year 1853; I have been chairman and deputy chairman most of the time.

4532. Both the Manchester and the Salford corporation at one time used only Wigan cannel?—Yes, they only used Wigan cannel up to a recent period.

4533. We now hear that the Manchester corporation use 33 per cent. of coal; is that so?—Yes, that is so.

4534. The difference being cannel?—Yes.

4535. Has your experience at Salford enabled you to give an opinion as to what can be produced from that proportion of cannel and coal in the way of illuminating power?—We have never used anything near so much coal as that; our year terminates in June, and I have not got the return for last year; the previous year we only used about 5 per cent., but I know that we cannot get anything like the quality of gas that has been spoken of here; they do not get that quality of gas from the Wigan cannel on an average; our average is stated at 20 to a little over; 21 as tested by Dr. Angus Smith at the works, but it is only an occasional testing, generally once a week, and sometimes not more than twice a month; and I know very well from experience that frequently the illuminating power is below that, and if that gas were to be tested with the care that it is tested with where you are under penalty from hour to hour, it would not be anything like 21 candle gas.

4536. You speak now of the gas tested at the works?—Yes; our test is at the

Mr. *C. E. Cawley.*

18 June 1867.

the works, and of course the illuminating power is higher, by perhaps a couple of candles, than it would be at a considerable distance off.

4537. Your experience is, that you could not produce 18 or 19 candle gas at 1,000 yards from the works, or more than that, without using all cannel?—All ordinary cannel, or else limiting the production, because you cannot get above a certain quantity of gas of a higher quality from the cannel; some small portion of the cannel is better than others; but, independently of that, the earlier gas that goes off is the highest in quality; if you obtained the quantity, you certainly would not obtain that quality of gas without a larger portion of cannel.

4538. From your neighbourhood to Manchester, there is, I suppose, a certain amount of rivalry, which has led you to look particularly to their gas and their accounts?—Yes; I burn both gases, one in my house, and the other in the office, and, since they have used so much coal, there is no question that the Manchester gas has been of a less illuminating power; it is quite a mistake to say that there has not been any complaint; there have been many complaints in the newspapers during the last winter.

4539. You have examined the Manchester accounts very carefully, I believe?—Yes; I have them here.

4540. You know the deductions that are made specially, by Mr. Cleminshaw, from those accounts?—Yes.

4541. Will you tell me in what particulars you find errors in Mr. Cleminshaw's statements?—There is one important amount, affecting the accounts of both Manchester and Salford, when compared with the companies here; that is to say, that in both those cases the maintenance of the works under the head of depreciation, is charged separately to a depreciation fund; it is debited to revenue, but under that head of depreciation; in the company's accounts there is no such item, and that in Manchester amounted to just over 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet of the gas sold; in Salford it is the same, but we deal with it differently; in the Manchester accounts they charge the whole of their expenditure for extensions and renewals to one account, and deduct from that the amount which they charge for depreciation, which is debited to revenue, and which, in the year 1866, was 13,817 *l.*; that Mr. Cleminshaw did not include.

4542. Whereas, in the London returns, that is included?—Yes, the whole of the expenses are included in the London accounts.

4543. Mr. *Peel.*] In the manufacture they charge depreciation?—Yes, they charge the maintenance of their works without a separate fund.

4544. As part of the cost of manufacture?—Yes.

4545. That accounts for the 3 *d.* per 1,000 feet difference?—Yes; it may happen, and I believe it does, that in taking the London accounts, you will find in some years it is more and some years it is less; and, to avoid that, we have a depreciation fund.

4546. *Chairman.*] What you say is, that Mr. Cleminshaw represented Manchester as unduly favoured in comparison with London, by reason of having omitted to take in a charge for depreciation, which you consider equivalent to about 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet?—Yes; that is the actual sum charged.

4547. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I suppose you remember how Mr. Cleminshaw put that; he took the Manchester gas at 22 to 23 candles?—Yes.

4548. He took coals at per 1,000 feet, 10·116 *d.*?—Yes, that is without leakage.

4549. Then he he took wages, including leakage, at 11·950 *d.*?—I think so. With regard to the actual quantity, I do not know where he got his figures from, because they do not return the quantity of gas made; they give us the money, and the town clerk gave us the price; that, of course, is easily worked out, but it is in that way that I had it.

4550. The leakage at Salford is about 12 per cent., I believe?—It is now 12 per cent., but it was considerably more some few years ago. My own impression is, that the difference is due chiefly to the improvement in the meters, because there is no greater fallacy in my opinion than to look upon it as leakage; it is unaccounted for gas. How much of it is leakage we have no means of knowing; but I do not believe that it is anything like the largest proportion.

4551. Have

4551. Have you any means of ascertaining, or could Mr. Cleminshaw ascertain, in any way what proportion of the charge is due to loss of gas?—Yes; the way in which both of us can do it, by making a calculation from the money, and the prices given, and it is, according to my calculation from those figures, 11 per cent. in Manchester.

4552. Then Mr. Cleminshaw put profit and charges on capital at 13·934 *d.*, making up a total of 36 *d.*?—He makes out that 36 *d.* will leave that amount of profit.

4553. That covers the cost of wages, unaccounted for gas, and the profit?—Yes.

4554. We know that the profits charged in Manchester are on a smaller capital than has been actually expended on the works?—Yes.

4555. By a considerable amount?—Yes.

4556. Now contrasting that Manchester case with the London companies, he puts the coal per 1,000 at 9·358 *d.*; wages and leakage, 24·356 *d.*; profit and charges on capital, 14·286 *d.*; making up altogether 4 *s.*, according to their present way of working?—Yes; I think that you may deduct that 24 *d.* as the difference between the 4 *s.* It is not that the London companies come to that, but that if 4 *s.* was requisite, it would take that under those heads.

4557. Then Mr. Cleminshaw's view is, that the difference of 1 *s.* in the cost is a difference that arises from what he calls leakage, and in labour and expenses connected with that leakage?—Yes.

4558. Do you know what is the average amount of unaccounted for gas in all the London companies?—I can work it out; it is about 15 per cent. I think, actually, according to the figures from their returns; it is about 15 or 16 per cent., but they will vary from year to year.

4559. Do you find that in the Manchester case all the charges of labour which are incident to the working of the London companies are brought in against the gas works and in the gas accounts; for instance, lighting the lamps?—With the London companies some of the accounts include them, and some do not. In neither Salford nor Manchester is the lighting of the lamps or the repair of the lamps at all included; they are done by the corporation, but by a different department; they do not appear in the gas accounts at all.

4560. Now does the reinstatement of the streets form a charge?—Yes; but I think there should be very little of that except in extensions, and then it comes to the capital. In London, of course, if they have to take up the streets the expense is heavy.

4561. Working out those differences which we establish between your view of the Manchester case and the London case, and that of Mr. Cleminshaw, how would you alter his figures?—The net cost of the materials per 1,000 feet sold in Manchester is 11·36 *d.*, after deducting the residual products. With regard to the eight companies in London who make common gas only (the other four it is impossible to compare), their net cost is 13·09 *d.* The general charges in Manchester, charged to the account, are 12·20 *d.* on the gas sold; those in London, including the meters (of which Manchester has very few) are 18·32 *d.*; the depreciation in Manchester is 3·02 *d.*; so that the real difference between the charges in Manchester and London is just 3·1 *d.* for the general charges and cost of the works; and that is fully accounted for by the different circumstances of the two places, I think.

4562. What does the difference then work out to?—The difference is 3·10 *d.*, that is to say, the actual cost of last year of those eight companies in the metropolis for coal, material, and labour, was 31·41 *d.* as against 26·58 *d.*

4563. That is excluding profit and charges on capital?—That is excluding profit and charges on capital.

4564. Can you tell me what is the amount of capital actually invested at Manchester per ton of coal carbonised, as it is a test which our opponents are fond of resorting to?—It is somewhere about 7 *l.*; it is a little more than 7 *l.*; it is over 800,000 *l.* of real capital, and the tons carbonised, according to the prices, work out to 118,533.

4565. This requires a calculation, because we could not get the tons of coal carbonised; it works out to something like 7 *l.* per ton of coal carbonised?—Yes.

Mr. *C. E. Cavley.*

18 June 1867.

4566. Now will you tell me what is the money figure which represents a 10 per cent. dividend upon the aggregate London capitals; I mean in the price of gas?—It is 16·09 *d.* for the eight companies, and 16·92 *d.* for the four companies on their sale of last year; the Western Company is more, that is 22·84 *d.*

4567. That is taken on the whole of the companies allotted as you have put them?—Yes; that is taking the eight companies that make common gas, and the other four companies that make chiefly common and some cannel, and the Western which makes only cannel gas.

4568. Mr. *Goldney.*] That makes the whole 13 companies?—Yes.

4569. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] Of course a difference of 6 *d.* would be a most material difference on the profits from the manufacture of the gas?—It takes it all from the dividends practically.

4570. Now you have spoken of the average; but those are the precise differences upon the capitals of the different companies, are they not?—Yes, they are.

4571. And the price?—Yes.

4572. Mr. *Goldney.*] You have no sources of information, except the accounts of the companies, I suppose?—I believe that you have not materials for making a calculation. Mr. Cleminshaw has given you one figure, and I give you another. The Committee have got the dividends, that is to say, the capitals in the returns; but you have not got there the quantity of coal carbonised, and the quantity of gas made and sold. Those former returns are inferences and calculations made by Mr. Hughes, but the returns given by the companies themselves do not contain them.

4573. *Chairman.*] Do we understand you to say that you have a personal knowledge of the quantities of coal carbonised, and the quantities of gas made and sold in London, which we have not had before us from any other source?—I have the figures furnished to me by the companies, and those figures you have not before you so far as I know. I am speaking of the London companies.

4574. That is to say, that we are occupied in learning from the companies through the chairman of the gas committee at Salford, that of which he knows nothing, and of which they know everything——

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] The witness is a civil engineer, and being acquainted with gas matters at Salford, speaks of the comparison between Manchester and London. He has looked into that question generally, and it is in the nature of a general witness that he is now speaking on this point. Here is a table which we will put before the Committee.

Chairman.] This seems to me to be exactly one of those papers that we thought might be compared between the parties, and probably agreed upon.

Mr. *Peel.*] If the witness could give us the actual capital which the Salford works are now using, and the amount of coal which they carbonise annually, the cost of it, and the amount that they expend in labour per 1,000 feet, that evidence would be valuable as a basis for any calculation that we might wish to make.

Mr. *Hope Scott.*] He has done that with regard to Manchester.

4575. (To the *Witness*). Will you now give the Committee the same particulars with regard to Salford?—As to the capital invested in these works at present, the depreciation fund is not deducted from it; we keep the works up, and there is a fund lying by in the bank, out of which the renewals are all made.

Mr. *Peel.*] Which is in fact so much depreciation.

4576. *Chairman.*] The prime cost is charged to capital, and the depreciation to revenue?—That is it. The amount invested in the works was 161,000 *l.* and odd, twelve months ago; and I think, looking back to the old accounts, there

there was about 10,000 *l.* or 12,000 *l.* written off before the present corporation took it against works. I mean written off for depreciation; it was not more than that, but 161,000 *l.* may be taken.

4577. Mr. *Peel.*] I understand you to say that 12,000 *l.* was written off the 161,000 *l.*?—No; that was written off the original expenditure long before.

4578. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] I understand you to say that the real prime cost was 161,000 *l.*?—No, the real present value.

4579. The net capital is 161,000 *l.*?—Yes, it stood so a year ago.

4580. *Chairman.*] The 161,000 *l.* represents that which, according to your present practice, was a real capital charge for the prime cost of the works; there was at one time a capital charge of 12,000 *l.*, but that according to the present practice, and according to the good sense of the case, should have been charged to revenue, and therefore has to be written off?—That sum was written off; that is to say, the capital was reduced by that amount.

4581. The capital having been so reduced, it stands at 161,000 *l.*?—Yes.

4582. Mr. *Peel.*] That is the present value of the works?—Yes; in addition to that there would be the capitalising of the chief rent of the works at Langley; they are on a chief rent of 284 *l.* a year.

4583. *Chairman.*] You capitalise that, and then you have got the prime cost; the prime cost of the works is 161,000 *l.* plus the capital value of the grount rent.

4584. Mr. *Hope Scott* (to the *Witness*).] The original expenditure was larger than that?—Yes, it was larger by 10,000 *l.* or 12,000 *l.*

4585. *Chairman.*] The original expenditure was only larger because depreciation which ought to have gone from revenue had at one time been charged to capital to the extent of 12,000 *l.*?—Yes.

4586. And you think it proper to strike that off?—Yes.

4587. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] But what is the total cost of the works at Salford, and the money actually laid out on them?—That involves a question, because if I put the money laid out——

4588. I mean in the original plant?—On the amount which I gave you.

4589. *Chairman.*] That is 161,000 *l.* plus this sum for ground rent?—Yes, because the renewal ought not to be capital originally; the quantity carbonised was 26,350 tons; I think the prices you have from our manager are correct.

4590. What do you capitalise the ground rent at?——

4591. Mr. *Goldney.*] Why should it be capitalised?—Because it ought to have been bought; it would be the same thing entirely as if we paid rent for the works.

4592. That must come out of revenue?—The rent comes out of revenue——

4593. Mr. *Hope Scott.*] If you had bought the land out and out, it would have represented such and such a sum of money?—Yes.

4594. It is chief rent?—Yes; it is worth about 24 years' purchase now, because it is improved land.

4595. Going back to where we were, your figure is about 6 *l.* 10 *s.* per ton of coal carbonised?—Yes; I may mention that we are obliged to buy more land, and that we have a Bill, which has passed this Session, for that purpose.

4596. Can you give the other details; your cost of production?—Our manager, Mr. Hall, gave that.

4597. Do you confirm that evidence?—Yes; I saw his figures before he gave them, and he gave them correctly.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

4598. You having got this table, upon every 100 *l.* worth of gas, what should you consider a fair profit to sell it at; I mean, if you had it in your gas-holder, what should it fetch?—I can scarcely understand what you mean.

4599. Treat the gas as a commercial commodity; take 100 *l.* worth of gas, what could you sell it at for a fair profit?—You mean, supposing the gas cost 100 *l.* to produce, how much should I get for it; as a commercial matter, I think people would not like a less profit than 10 per cent.

4600. That would be 110 *l.*?—Yes.

4601. That would be a fair return you think?—Yes.

Mr. *C. E. Cawley.*

18 June 1867.

4602. Have you had the curiosity to work out what amount of profit that gas is sold at there, according to that table of yours?—No; pardon me, I do not mean 10 per cent. on the gas made, that is not 10 per cent. profit; that is 10 per cent. on the capital.

4603. Very good; but I am including this, that there would be a certain amount allowed for capital in the cost of the 100 *l.* worth of gas?—You did not say that.

4604. But you cannot make gas without capital, can you?—Certainly not.

4605. Suppose, then, you have 100 *l.* worth of gas; that is to say, gas that has cost 100 *l.* to produce, what would you sell it at for a fair profit?—That involves a question which does not admit of a general answer, because it would depend on what you should include in the cost; some people would include in the cost of production, capital and interest on capital.

4606. Take it any way you please?—My answer is, that I think the Parliamentary dividends are not in excess.

4607. No, that is not an answer to my question; choose what capital you like (you know what capital would be necessary to produce 100 *l.* worth of gas), and give me an answer; tell me what you think would be a fair profit?—A fair return upon the capital invested and employed? I say that 10 per cent. is not in my judgment in excess, but I cannot reduce that in the way you put it.

Chairman.] I am just in the same position as the witness; I cannot understand what 100 *l.* worth of gas means, except gas that would sell at 100 *l.*, but if you mean gas that would cost 100 *l.* in making, then you have to go through a very elaborate calculation of how much is to be allowed for plant and other things.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] The question was suggested by the table. I say, what is the cost of 100 *l.* worth of gas to produce it wholesale, and to be retailed as any commercial commodity, what would you consider, as a commercial man, a fair profit?

Chairman.] The witness says 10 per cent. on the capital invested in the business.

4608. Mr. *Rodwell.*] I observe by the table put in here that the average profit there is about 50 per cent.?—No, it is less than 10 per cent., because the dividend and interest calculated is the actual amount taken from the company's payments, part of which is less than 10 per cent., therefore the average must be below that; what that works out per 1,000 feet is a totally different question.

4609. The coals cost so much, and the general charges so much?—Yes, it is over 50 per cent. on the other net cost, but that tells us nothing with regard to the rate of return in the name of interest or profit.

4610. Those sums paid up for dividend and interest depend on the capital of the company, do they not?—Yes.

4611. And not necessarily the capital expended in the production of the gas?—Unless you can prove that that capital is in excess, this is the actual capital employed.

4612. Then, of course, everything that does not go to the cost of the gas is in excess?—No.

4613. You do not admit that?—Not in that general way, without defining what you mean by the cost of the gas.

4614. Now, with regard to the quality of gas at Salford, what coal do you use?—The Wigan cannel; the same coal that is used at Manchester; it comes from the same people in fact, except that they have been using more coal during the last two years than we have, and we were driven to use some.

4615. Can you account for the difference between Mr. Cleminshaw and yourself?—I think Mr. Cleminshaw has no practical experience of what Manchester is now, and I have had that experience for many years past. I know this as matter of observation. I told them before these gentlemen went down to test it, that they would find the Manchester gas inferior to the Salford gas. I know it from observation; at times, no doubt, they have had better gas.

4616. Have

4616. Have you tested the Manchester gas?—They have had witnesses who went down and tested it.

4617. But speaking from your own personal knowledge, have you tested it?—No; only from observation, and from using the gas in my office, and going home and using the other gas in my house.

4618. Mr. *Peel.*] I understood you to say that the gas which you make in Salford is not 21 candle gas, but probably 18 candle gas?—If it were tested 1,000 yards from the works, hour by hour, I think the average would not be more than 18 or 19 candles. In the year 1866 we only used 5 per cent. of coal, and perhaps a little more last winter.

4619. *Chairman.*] You have no proof probably of how many candles power you can obtain from the Newcastle coal?—Not from my own experience.

4620. You cannot give us any opinion as to how much per candle it would require to raise the illuminating from 14 candles to 18 candles?—It depends on the cost of the cannel, and in London so far as I can make out it would certainly be $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* or 3 *d.* per candle, certainly not less. I know this, and probably you know it, that Wigan cannel is, practically, a monopoly.

4621. You have no experience of what the mere coal will yield, your experience being rather of what the mere cannel will yield?—Yes; I only know from other works where I have been called in.

Re-examined by Mr. *Hope Scott.*

4622. With regard to this table, if you get 100 *l.* for gas sold, you would require, according to this table, about 33 *l.* per cent. for dividend and interest?—50 *l.* per cent., I think.

4623. No; out of 100 *l.* received for gas sold, would not your figures give 33 *l.* per cent. as due to profit and interest?—Yes, for gas sold.

4624. That is to say, on the capitals actually employed by the companies?—Yes; I ought to say that we have varied a 1 *d.* or 2 *d.* in our receipts for the residual products; we had been getting, for two or three years, exorbitant prices for the residual products, owing to the new dye, which, not proving fast, has gone out of fashion, and the consequence is, that the residual products have dropped down about one-half.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Davison* stated, on the part of the Board of Trade, that matters having taken an unexpected turn with regard to Dr. Letheby not having been called, and the question of burners having been raised, he should ask the leave of the Committee to call one or two witnesses of experience to speak upon that point at the end of the case, or at any other time that the Committee pleased.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee had always postponed all evidence which was stated by the learned Counsel to point to the schedule, until the schedule was itself distinctly before the Committee.

Mr. *Grove* stated that he had not gone into the question of the burner, because the learned Counsel for the Board of Trade had stated that he should tender evidence upon that subject, and that he, Mr. Grove, then thought it better to wait until he had done so.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that the Committee had decided not to go into the question of the burner in the schedule, but he submitted that, in determining the illuminating power of the gas, it would be necessary also to specify the description of the burner.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee were at present dealing with the definition in the Act of 1860, and that until they came upon the schedule it would be desirable to proceed upon that understanding.

Mr. *Davison* and Mr. *O'Malley* stated that that explanation would meet their views.

18 June 1867.

Mr. *Michael* handed in a statement of the illuminating powers prescribed by Parliament from 1856 to 1866, with date of Act and maximum price; an analysis of the House of Commons return of August 1866; a table giving the capitals of various provincial gas companies, and a table giving the capital and various financial details of the Western Company in connection with the Metropolitan Gas Bill of 1867.

Vide Appendix.

The *Chairman* stated that he wished it to be understood, that although the examination of witnesses upon certain points had been stopped, yet Mr. Hope Scott was not to be precluded, in making his speech, from referring to them on the ground that they had not been given in evidence.

[Adjourned to To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 19*th June* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Robert Baxter*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Denison.*

Mr. R. Baxter.

19 June 1867.

4625. You were present yesterday, I believe, when the conversation took place at the end, about some tables to be supplied?—Yes, I was.

4626. Are those the tables that have been prepared according to the instructions which were given by the Chairman yesterday, and also before the holidays?—Yes.

4627. And they have been communicated to the opponents, have they not?—Yes they have; they were sent over this morning.

4628. As far as your opinion goes, do those tables comprise all the things which are capable of being reduced to unquestionable figures, and are not subject to any dispute?—Yes; I have got from the various companies returns on all those facts, and those returns are accurately embodied in this paper, I believe. (*The table was handed in.*)

Vide Appendix.

4629. You were agent for the Gas Companies in the fight of 1860?—Yes, and sometime anterior to that.

4630. You remember, I dare say, that that Bill was proposed by the promoters of it for whom I was Counsel, as offering to the companies the benefit of districting?—Yes; the companies had established districts before that Bill was brought in, but that Bill proposed to legalise the districting.

4631. The Committee know from what has been said already, how the law stands about that; the Bill was offered then in that form as a compromise between the public as represented by the vestries and Mr. Beale, and the Gas Companies on the other side?—Yes; they offered the districting as a boon to the companies.

4632. And it was a boon to this extent, that none of the companies could, without the authority of Parliament, any longer compete with the others?—That was so after the passing of the Act of 1860.

4633. Was that the answer given to the companies whenever they complained of that Bill as being brought in against them at a time when they were not asking any favour from Parliament?—Yes, it was said, "By bringing in the Bill, we propose restrictions as to the price and illuminating power, but you must remember that we are legalising the districting, and so delivering you from competition."

4634. Now, with regard to the Bill of 1860, there had been inquiries in several previous sessions, in the nature of general Committees, into the subject of gas in the metropolis?—Yes; the subject of gas had been before Parliament in 1858 and 1859 very seriously, and was finally taken up in the year 1860, when this Bill was passed; therefore the Act of 1860 was a deliberate settlement of the question between the company and the public; that was the result

Mr. *R. Baxter.*

19 June 1867.

of three years of Parliamentary inquiries into the position of the Gas Companies.

4635. As Mr. Beale has had his say, paying you a compliment, let us see how far you will accept it; he says that the Bill of 1860 was altered into the form in which it was passed entirely through what he was pleased to call your eloquence in the Committee?—The fact was this, the Bill was first reported by the Committee, and in the report of that Bill, as first reported, they cut down the profits of the companies to 8 per cent. from 10 per cent., and they had made various alterations which the companies considered incompatible altogether with fairness and justice, and they went to the House of Commons, and a discussion arose in the House of Commons upon the consideration of the report upon the Bill; the Bill was recommitted to the same Committee; and when it was recommitted, it was then that I appeared for the companies, and the Bill finally took that form in which it appears now.

4636. Is it correct to say that the alterations and the cutting down of the dividends were due to what was done by you in the Committee, or was that the ground of its being recommitted by the House?—It was the ground of the Bill being recommitted by the House; it was evident upon the debate that the House thought 10 per cent. should be given; and, in fact, when Mr. Sotheron Estcourt, the Chairman of the Committee, was addressed in the House, he gave way and said he did not mean to cut the dividend down, and he gave an explanation to show what he had really intended; it was then remitted to the House with instructions from the House, as I gather from the debate, that the 10 per cent. should be resumed; so that I had no argument to address to the Committee upon that point.

4637. That was the main point in dispute between the promoters of that Bill and the companies, was it not?—That was the most important point, but there was a great mass of detail in which we thought the inquiry had miscarried and in which the Committee altered the Bill afterwards.

4638. In the House of Lords it was settled by a compromise, to which everybody came in except one of the vestries?—Yes, that is so; we were only opposed in the House of Lords by one vestry; it was carried up there, and we, as the companies, accepted it as sent from the Committee here, and it was opposed by one of the vestries.

4639. The House of Lords allowed them to be heard upon all new points, but refused to let any one else re-open the compromise, was not that so?—Yes, that was so.

4640. Has there been, so far as you know, any application to the Home Secretary to modify the districts under the Act of 1860?—None, I believe.

4641. Dr. Letheby's evidence we may take from the proceedings of last year, I suppose. There have been a few minor complaints against the companies in respect of their gas, which have been all investigated, I believe?—There has been only one case in which the Home Secretary was asked to appoint an inspector; and within a month or three weeks after the inspector was appointed, he inspected and reported, and the matter was remedied; that had arisen from an accident to the purifier, so that a complaint was made of a want of purity in the gas.

4642. With regard to the alleged insufficiency of the Act of 1860 upon the point of some of the legal remedies, has that been sufficiently tested?—It has never been tested; the Act enables the parties to have legal remedies for all wrongs, if they please, but nobody has ever tested it. They began once in the City, but it was found that the magistrate before whom the complaint was laid was interested, and he refused to proceed. They never resumed the inquiry before a proper impartial tribunal.

4643. Was that objection taken by the magistrate himself, and not by you?—By the magistrate.

4644. And you say that the complainants never proceeded further?—No.

4645. They might have brought it before another magistrate, might they not?—Certainly they might, but they did not choose to do so.

4646. There has been no prosecution by the Attorney-General under the Act?—None.

4647. Now

4647. Now, about the purity of the gas, what do you say?—There has been only that one complaint, and that was against the Independent Gas Company. It arose from a great extra demand for gas. The purifiers were being enlarged, but the contractor had not proceeded with his contract according to the arrangements made with him, and for a few days the purity of the gas was not what it ought to be; but long before the inspector's report to the Board of Trade came to bear upon the company, the company had remedied the evil, and no more complaint was made.

4648. Then the complaint was made that if any penalties are levied upon the companies they came out of the public, because they come out of the margin beyond the 10 per cent.?—That would necessarily be the result where the companies are earning more than 10 per cent.; but now the companies voluntarily say, "We will willingly let the penalty come out of the dividend."

4649. About the 14 candle gas; we have volunteered to give 14 candle gas according to the burner, which seems now to be the fashion?—Yes; we have volunteered to give 14 candle gas at a price of 4 *s.*, subject to modification in the case of coal and labour rising very much.

4650. Which is already in the Act of 1860?—Yes; it is in the Act of 1860; it is preserving the power in the event of the materials also rising of modifying the price. Nothing could give more satisfaction than the working of that Act if you measure it by the complaints that have been made under it.

4651. Some witness said that the expense of making an investigation of the gas was too great for people to undertake it for themselves, and that the vestries would not appoint an examiner?—There is a clause in the Bill that upon the payment of a fee of 10 *s.*, or some small sum (I do not know whether it is a guinea or half a guinea), they may have it examined immediately they lay a complaint.

4652. Quite independently of the vestries?—Quite.

4653. Now, a word about the proceedings of last year; you were one of the witnesses examined on behalf of the companies last year?—That was so.

4654. For some reason or other it was thought convenient to go into these legal questions last year before we got into the engineering?—Yes; that was to show the Committee how the Act had worked, and to give an opportunity to the opponents to show the ground of their complaints against the Act.

4655. After you had been examined, what took place with regard to the conduct of our case?—I will read from page 28 of the shorthand writer's full note of the discussion on the 8th of May 1866. It begins by the Chairman saying, "The case of the promoters of this inquiry being closed, the Committee have thought it might be a guide to the learned gentlemen who conduct the case on the other side, if they stated their views as to the nature of the inquiry, and the mode in which it should be continued. We are satisfied upon one point, that it will not be necessary for the learned gentlemen to call witnesses to prove the necessity of districting the metropolis, but we should be glad to hear evidence, if evidence is to be called, with regard to the necessity of a higher standard of illuminating power of gas. Secondly, we should like to hear any testimony to show that it is sufficiently pure: and that the testing powers are sufficient, because on those points the Committee, I may say, are not satisfied." The latter is the legal point which I thought I had in my mind leading to Mr. Baxter being called in at once. "We also think that the penalties should be levied in a more summary and direct manner than they are at present by reference to the Secretary of State, which is a cumbrous and inefficient mode, and has been found, in fact, inoperative. Beyond that, the Committee desire me to state that they want evidence as to the disposal and matter of account of the reserve fund of the companies. They are not satisfied in what way those monies become accumulated, how they are disposed of, and what becomes of the interest. And, lastly, they wish the parties who appear for the company to show why the maximum price should be so high as it is at present by the Gas Act of 1860. Those are the points upon which the Committee desire to have evidence." Then comes Mr. Hope Scott, who makes this statement: "In answer to the observations which have fallen from you, Sir, as far as the observations can be met by any statement of mine at this moment, I am authorised on behalf of my clients to say that they are quite willing to adopt the higher standard of illuminating power of 14 candles, mentioned by the witnesses. With regard

Mr. *R. Baxter.*

19 June 1867.

to the question of purity, they have been satisfied, partly by the evidence which has been adduced before you, and partly by their own experience, that it is a matter of extreme difficulty and delicacy; but the question as to what processes will remove the impurity, particularly the sulphurous impurity, and what test should be used in ascertaining it, is really a matter on which chemical science has not yet arrived at its maximum, and upon which their own experience leads them to suppose that there is a greater amount of difficulty than has been shown, even by the witnesses before the Committee. Upon that head, therefore, Sir, if you should think fit to adopt the principle which we think will be a fair one, it would be this: we should propose that a chemical Board should be appointed by the Home Secretary; that that chemical Board should, of course, conduct its operations at our expense, and that it should inquire both into the actual modes of purification adopted in the metropolis, and into any other modes which can be suggested from any other quarter. The *Chairman.*] Do you propose in addition to that, that an analytical chemist should be appointed? Mr. *Hope Scott.*] We have have not drawn the clause, but the plan we should recommend would be this: I am not speaking of the examination, I am speaking of that which may be called the legislation upon the subject; that the Home Secretary should appoint a Board, say of three chemists; that they should, in the first instance, examine into these matters which I have mentioned, and, in addition to that, examinine what are the best and most proper tests; that they, having come to a decision upon those points, the Secretary of State might order, or it might be determined by an Order Council, what shall be the standard of purity, and what shall be the mode of testing. That matter being then settled, there should be a permanent examination by a proper officer, guided by the rules laid down by this chemical Board, and the chemical Board might be re-assembled at given intervals, if you please, to re-consider the question, so that if chemical science has added anything in the meantime, they might add to the regulations, which would emanate from the Secretary of State through the Privy Council, or otherwise, as further experience might suggest. We make this suggestion, I may say, in perfect good faith, for nobody can have a greater interest in having a proper purity of gas than we have. In the first place, it tends to increase our consumption, and in the next place to avoid penalties. If you should think that that principle is a good and sound one, we might dispense with any further chemical evidence before you, and go at once to the question of the principle to be embodied in a resolution, or in clauses, as you should think fit. That is the way in which we would deal with the two first questions." Then the Chairman says, "Those are the two main points. You propose to raise the standard to 14 candles? and the answer is, Yes." Then there is a little more discussion about that which seems immaterial. I pass over all this about the burners. Then after that Mr. Baxter was called and examined, and after his examination, Mr. Burke says, "I do not know whether the class of evidence we have got now would be exactly the evidence we should desire to produce, after the intimation we received from you as to the course of the inquiry. We have a great deal of evidence to rebut that class of evidence produced before you by different tradesmen; but, I doubt, after the intimation we have received from you, whether, upon further consideration, we should not dispense with that evidence; that is, the class of evidence we have here, and, if you like to hear it, we are quite ready to proceed. The *Chairman.*] Are we to understand, on the part of the companies, you propose that this medical Board should be appointed, provided the Committee draw up a resolution recommending such a Board; and you propose to raise the standard of the illuminating power of the gas to 14 candles. Upon that, also, I will take the opinion of the Committee. And then you propose that the maximum price shall not exceed 4*s.* Mr. *Burke.*] Those are the three concessions made by Mr. Hope Scott this morning. The *Chairman.*] The only other point we are taking evidence upon has been the question of reserve fund, which Mr. Baxter has gone into so largely, that I think you hardly require any more witnesses. Mr. *Burke.*] If we have at any time an intimation from the Committee that they are satisfied upon any point, we do not seek to burden the case with evidence. The *Chairman.*] We are to have a list put in of the reserve funds, and how disposed of. I think Mr. Baxter agreed that those lists shall be put in to-morrow," and so on. Then my learned friend Mr. Burke says, "We must get those

those lists made for you." Then Mr. *Paull* says, "Is not that shown in the printed accounts?" and Mr. *Burke* replies, "No, I do not think it is." The *Chairman* then proceeds, "I do not think there is any other point that you can examine witnesses upon. I confess, as far as I can gather from the Committee, they are satisfied, as far as the evidence has gone, and I think you may be prepared to leave it in their hands." I do not think, Sir, that you have that in your Blue Book. My learned friend Mr. Burke answers the Chairman in this way, "Only just let me state this, which shall go on the notes—Receiving that intimation from the Committee, we shall feel it our duty, of course, to limit our evidence in accordance with what has fallen from you; on the other hand, if we had not received any such intimation from the Committee that they were satisfied with the evidence under this point, there being a large body of evidence brought forward on the other side, we should have felt it our absolute duty to rebut that evidence, in order that the parties on the other side should not be able at their meetings elsewhere to say we have given a large body of evidence which has not been rebutted at all; but if we receive an intimation from the Committee, of course that is our guide as to the course we shall adopt. The *Chairman.*] I think you concede most of the points to which the evidence has been directed on the other side in the concessions made by Mr. Hope Scott this morning. Mr. *Burke.*] I do not know whether we go so far as the other side desire, but we have endeavoured, and I venture to state it, we made the same statement in 1860; we have endeavoured to meet the case fairly by all possible concessions; we have endeavoured to meet all the objections made in any fair spirit; in 1860 we stated this, and I believe through my own mouth, and we state it again; we have not felt the necessity of further legislation, for we believe the Act of 1860 has been sufficient, and we have acted in accordance with it. On the other hand, if you think the Act of 1860 is insufficient, point out to us in what manner you think so, and we will meet you upon every point which will be consistent with fairness on both sides. The *Chairman.*] You have done so on those points that the Committee did think concessions were required, through Mr. Hope Scott this morning. Mr. *Burke.*] That is what in consultation it was our great endeavour to do. The *Chairman.*] I have not taken the individual opinion from the members of the Committee, but I believe they are satisfied with those concessions." The Committee all sat silent, and I suppose that may be taken as acquiescence in that statement. Then my learned friend Mr. Burke says:—"If that be so, of course it is not our desire or interest to proceed further. The *Chairman.*] What are we to go on with to-morrow? Mr. *Burke.*] If you will allow us, we shall meet in consultation, and take fully into consideration what has fallen from you, and in the morning I have no doubt you will find we shall have so curtailed our case, that we shall not give you much trouble in further inquiry. The *Chairman.*] It was stated by Mr. Webster, on the other side, that they also would require, as well as the Committee, to consider the proposals made by you, and of course Mr. Webster will have the power of reply upon those proposals. Mr. *Burke.*] I have no doubt he will. The *Chairman.*] I think that is the clear understanding. Mr. *Hoggins.*] We shall request the opportunity of consulting our clients upon that subject. Mr. *Burke.*] I think that we ought reasonably to expect that a body like the Corporation of London, who are here taking the initiative in this case, would meet us in a fair and liberal spirit also. A great deal of the evidence on the other side is not fair evidence as against the companies; but I do not want to make the Corporation responsible for that. It falls from the lips of gentlemen who make it their business to agitate these matters. The *Chairman.*] I think the Committee are quite able to estimate all that evidence for what it is worth. Mr. *Hoggins.*] It has been suggested by the Remembrancer that we might adjourn with advantage over to-morrow, in order that we might consult. The *Chairman.*] I think so. Mr. *Burke.*] It should be understood that if you come to a conclusion as to the resolutions that you will pass with reference to this inquiry, the City shall be ready to go on with their Bill if they may be wanted. The *Chairman.*] You do not call any more evidence, I understand? Mr. *Burke.*] I have not stated that. The *Chairman.*] If you do not call evidence, Mr. Webster will proceed to address the Committee the first thing on Friday. Mr. *Staniland.*] Would you intimate the advantage there would be in both parties meeting together? The *Chairman.*] They will probably do that. You will meet probably to agree amongst

Mr. *R. Baxter.*

19 June 1867.

yourselves. Mr. *Burke.*] The City has had now here our offer plainly made, and on the notes; they can therefore deal with it; and I think it would be fair and reasonable, they having now before them the proposals we have made can deliberate upon them; and I think it would be fair and reasonable that they should intimate to us what they consent to, and what they do not, before we meet. The *Chairman.*] You cannot ask us to mediate between you." That looks as though there must have been some further discussion.

Mr. *Rodwell.*] You will find that the next discussion was on the 11th of May.

Mr. *Denison.*] The matter seems to have died out on the next day. On the 11th of May comes the City of London Company's case; that was the end of the proceeding with regard to the general inquiry.

4656. *Chairman.*] The result of this is, that you have read to the witness an extract from the shorthand writer's notes of last year, and it is only now necessary to ask him whether he was present, and whether that is correct?—That is correct; this was printed at the time at which the discussion took place in Parliament, but I should explain that they never print the discussions.

4657. Mr. *Denison.*] Upon that discussion that I have been reading now fully, did the companies agree that it was not worth their while to call any more evidence?—After the intimation of the Committee, they thought it would not be right to call any more evidence.

4658. The next day I see the Chairman did refer a little to our proposal; he said this, "The Committee wish to know whether the Corporation assent or not; if they do not assent, we must go on. Mr. *Karslake.*] Having regard to the Bill of the Corporation, as well as the evidence adduced before the Committee, those who instruct me do not consider that the proposition as to 14 candles and the chemical Board is such as they can accept. The *Chairman.*] You may end, perhaps, in getting worse terms from the Committee. Mr. *Karslake.*] I suppose my clients have considered that?" —Yes.

4659. That having taken place, we called no more witnesses on those points, on which the Chairman and the Committee appeared to be satisfied, and we knew nothing more of the matter until the Report of that Committee came out? —The Bill was thrown out without calling on the companies to give any evidence against it.

4660. Another statement was made by Mr. Beale on the question of capital, and he was pleased to say, I think it was he, that the capital of the water companies was reduced in the year 1852?—Yes, he stated that.

4661. You were acting for the water companies in the year 1852, were you not?—I was; and I attended that very prolonged Committee during the whole of the inquiry.

4662. That inquiry lasted through two Sessions, did it not?—Yes; it began in 1851, and it ended in 1852. They passed the Metropolitan Water Bill; but what was done about the capital was this; the Committee did not for a moment—

4663. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Would not the Bill show that?—No; the Committee did not for a moment propose to interfere with any capital that had been authorised or recognised by Parliament; but every water company that came had its own separate Bills in that Session, except one. They had laid out a very very large sums of money out of the profits, and they came to the Committee to ask them to recognise those sums as capital; and in order to establish their claim, they brought a gentleman who was conversant with waterworks and also an accountant, to show first of all, that this money had been laid out as capital; and next, that the works on which the money had been laid out were still in existence, and still in repair; and having proved those two things, invariably without a question, the Committee admitted that the profits should be added to the capital; there was no such thing as a reduction of the capital of the companies in any shape.

4664. I believe that there were certain things struck off by the accountant himself?—Yes; the accountant said (to take an example) "This company has laid out 350,000 *l.* out of profits or capital account, and I ask you to allow 300,000 *l.* of this; I find that 50,000 *l.* was laid out on matters which are now abolished, and I ask you for the 300,000 *l.*"

4665. As I understand you, there was no reduction whatever of the capital that

that had been originally authorised, either by charter or by Act of Parliament? —No; in the case of the New River Company, the capital had never been named from its inception; the company was founded by a charter granted, I think, in the reign of Charles the First; it brought in proof of an outlay of a million and a half of money, and precisely the sum which was proved under those circumstances, was allowed by the Committee.

4666. Referring to your great experience in Parliamentary matters, I ask you, have you ever known any instance of a Parliamentary capital, or capital authorised in any way, being violently reduced?—I never heard of such a case; capital once recognised by Parliament we consider inviolable, and I never heard of its being interfered with.

4667. I think it is admitted by all the witnesses, that unless nearly all the capitals are reduced, they cannot possibly carry the figures which they put into their Bill; I mean consistently with leaving any dividends. The witnesses having stated that, do you think it would be entirely inconsistent with Parliamentary usage to reduce the price or increase the illuminating power, when the result must be to reduce the dividend?—I take it for granted that Parliament having authorised the limit of a 10 per cent. dividend, will not reduce the price so as to interfere with that dividend.

4668. That is a matter of opinion, but as a matter of experience have you ever known that sort of thing done?—Never.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Rodwell.*

4669. You were asked upon this question, it appears, in the evidence of 1866, before those resolutions were passed by the Committee, and you gave the same evidence, with the exception of those observations on Mr. Beale's evidence, before the Committee of 1866, precisely the same with regard to the legal difficulties, and with regard to the testing?—Very much the same, only more at large.

4670. There are 10 pages of it here?—Yes, I daresay.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Davison.*

4671. With regard to the proceedings of 1860, before Mr. Sotheron Estcourt's Committee, I believe this is a report which came out of your office (*handing a printed book to the Witness*)?—I dare say it did, if you say so.

4672. Will you kindly turn to the proceedings of the 7th of June 1860, and see whether, with the exception of the word "raise", which is there altered to "rise," I did not read accurately what Mr. Sotheron Estcourt said with regard to these proceedings when it was objected to on the first day of this Committee?—As a fact you borrowed this copy from me, and if you read this report you read it accurately I have no doubt.

Mr. *Denison.*] I am sure I do not remember what that book is.

Mr. *Davison.*] That copy which came from Mr. Baxter's has been compared with the shorthand writer's notes, and, with the single exception of the word "raise," which ought to be "rise," it stands exactly the same.

Chairman.] Is not that a book which has been referred to us by the House.

Mr. *Davison.*] No, Sir, I want to put that in; it begins with the words: "Before we proceed with the evidence, it may conduce to a more speedy and satisfactory termination of our work," and ends with the words "impression upon all those points." Then comes "Mr. Serjeant *Wrangham.*" [*The same was handed in, and is as follows:*] "Before we proceed with the evidence, it may conduce to a more speedy and satisfactory termination of our work, if I now, not in the shape of resolutions, shortly explain to the Counsel on both sides the principal points upon which we have been deliberating amongst ourselves, and the impression which the Committee entertain upon those points. It will, at least, give you something like an intimation of the nature and amount of the evidence which it is desirable should be adduced, and may save you accumulating evidence upon matters upon which in truth our minds are pretty well made up. What I am about to read to you is a kind of rough draft of our impressions, not at all intimating them as resolutions; but we wish to lay them

Mr. *R. Baxter.*

19 June 1867.

before you as the impression of the Committee, upon what seem to us to be the main points upon which eventually we shall have to give our opinion. The first point is one about which I think there is scarcely anything to be found in the Bill, but which seems to us the most important of all, namely, that there ought to be a power other than the ordinary judicial power, as exercised in the Police Courts, which should have, in fact, the superintendence of the carrying of this Act into effect. Therefore, our first impression is, that it is desirable to give power to the Secretary of State for the Home Department to appoint inspectors, three or more, to be paid jointly by the companies and the ratepayers; the Treasury to fix the amount; the business of these inspectors to be to carry the provisions of the Act into effect; that they should be obliged to hold one meeting once every quarter (on a day either to be fixed in the Bill or in some way that all the world may know that there will be such a meeting held), in order to secure a joint cognisance of all complaints, inspections, awards, &c.; inspectors to report once a year to the Home Office. In the next place we think it indispensable to sanction in this Bill, in terms, the assigning of districts to companies, such assignments to be revised every three years by the Home Office; that we should begin with the existing appropriation. The mode of carrying that out, so as to prevent interference from those companies, to whom districting may not be assigned, is a matter which, I suppose, should be done, by suspending the power which they may possess by their local Acts; but upon that point we should hope that the Counsel for the companies would prepare a clause which we would take into consideration. Mr. Hope Scott drew our attention forcibly to that, and I do not doubt, therefore, that the Counsel for the companies will be prepared to offer to us a reasonable clause upon that point; but we quite agree that it is indispensable in the early part of this Bill, not in the preamble only, but in a clause, distinctly to affirm that which, in truth, is the basis of all operation, namely, the districting. The next point is the price and the illuminating power; we think it would hardly be wise in Parliament to take upon itself, absolutely and positively, to fix a certain price invariable for all times; we are of opinion, therefore, that the best plan would be to take an elastic or shifting standard, and, by means of the machinery of the Home Office, from time to time to effect a variation if circumstances should change. That which has occurred to us (and I beg you to understand that I am only throwing out this for your consideration; we shall be glad to hear what may be said upon the subject), is something to this effect—to take 10 per cent. as a standard of profit on the present price of 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, with an illuminating power of 12 sperm candles, to be tested quarterly at a distance not exceeding 500 yards of pipe from the works. If the profit increases above 10 per cent. upon an average of the three last years, the price to go down to 4 *s.* for the ensuing three years; if the profit goes below 10 per cent. upon an average of the last three years, the price to rise to 5 *s.* for the ensuing three years. If the illuminating power, as tested by the inspectors at the distance I have stated (not exceeding 500 yards from the works), exceeds, on an average of the last three years, 12 sperm candles, the price to be raised 1 *d.* per candle; if it falls below 12 sperm candles, *vice versâ*, the price to be lowered 1 *d.* per candle. With regard to purity, we think we could very easily arrange that, by taking some such standard as Dr. Letheby in his evidence suggested to us, only taking care to add sufficient margin of discretion to the inspectors. With regard to pressure, inaccuracy of meters, and cutting off of gas, we think that these articles ought to be ranged under the head of complaints by vestries or private consumers. We think that the inspectors ought to have power to ascertain the facts, and certify under their hand. Such certificate ought to be admitted as evidence before a justice. A power should be given by the Bill to the Lord Mayor, or to a police magistrate, or county magistrate, beyond the limits of any police courts, to hear and determine cases of complaint. With regard to leakage, we think that it is not necessary to interfere at all with the ordinary action of the companies. With regard to pipes, we may fairly assume that if any better mode than the present can be discovered by which leakage could be prevented, it would be so clearly their interest to adopt such a mode, that the Committee do not think it necessary to provide for that by any Parliamentary action. With regard to the point about the incoming tenant not being liable to pay the debt of the outgoing tenant, we think that it ought not to be allowed, except in case of collusion or fraud. With regard to contracts for lighting the public lamps between vestries and companies, we think that they

ought to be compelled to communicate them to the Home Office, and that they ought not to be valid without the sanction of the Secretary of State. Any defective lights in the public lamps should be proved by inspectors before a magistrate, and the company should be liable to a penalty of from 5 *l.* to 50 *l.* Every consumer should be at full liberty to use a meter at his own choice, provided it has been stamped under the Gas Measure Act, and no other should be allowed. We are supposing that the Gas Measure Act, if repealed, will be passed again in an amended shape, and we look, therefore, to the Gas Measure Act as the mode of testing the accuracy, and giving an authoritative standard to meters. We do not think it at all necessary that the Bill should interfere with the rent of the meters when they are supplied by the company, except only so far that no company ought to be allowed to put up a meter other than one that is stamped. With regard to pressure, which is the only point remaining, we think that it is not desirable (that is our present impression) to stipulate in the Bill for any particular amount of pressure, because the question of pressure only affects the public in the shape of defective light; and as we should wish to give very full power to all persons having complaints to make, to have those complaints either heard before a justice or remedied by the inspector, we think that we need not actually bind down the companies to any particular amount of pressure; but if they give a defective light, then there ought to be an easy remedy against them. I have gone through the principal points, and I have done so for the reason I have mentioned, to show the Counsel on both sides the leaning of the Committee at the present moment. We do not wish to interfere to prevent the Counsel for the companies offering to us what evidence they think desirable for the purpose of our coming to an ultimate determination; but in order that you may know what kind of evidence it is desirable that you should offer to us, we think time and trouble may be saved by our letting you know distinctly at the present moment our impression upon all those points."

4673. Mr. *Davison.*] The Bill, then, promoted in 1860 was a Bill got up by the consumers, was it not?—Yes, by the delegates, as they were called.

4674. But the funds they would have had to find amongst themselves in the event of the Bill being rejected?—Yes; the various parishes appointed delegates, who met and consulted; they brought in a Bill, and they conducted their inquiry, and they were responsible for their own expenses.

4675. But there was a power in the last clause of the Bill for the Metropolitan Board of Works to pay the money, was there not?—Yes.

4676. Therefore it was very easy to get the Bill?

Chairman.] I do not understand this point to be disputed at all. I thought it was agreed on both sides that one of the advantages that the delegates obtained was the payment of the costs.

4677. Mr. *Denison.*] That was one of them, and that was only one of the many advantages which Mr. Beale put forward as to be gained by going on with the Bill?—Only one of several. He issued a long explanation, in the nature of an appeal, to show that such and such advantages would be gained.

4678. And in fact they were gained?—They were gained.

4679. Something was said upon there being an intention to get the Bill somehow in the House of Lords; did you know anything about that? Mr. Beale seemed to say that to me; do you confess to anything of the kind?—Not at all; the Gas Companies considered that they were fairly bound to consent to the Bill in the House of Lords, if the parties who had charge of the Bill continued to promote it.

4680. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say that after the re-commital of the Bill of 1860, you, on the part of the companies, were an assenting party?—Yes, after the committee had made their final report; when we addressed the Committee on the re-committal of the Bill, we stated that we were willing to concede so and so.

4681. The Bill went to the House of Lords as your Bill as well as their Bill?—We considered ourselves pledged not to oppose it there; but if the other arty had dropped it, we should not have taken charge of it.

4682. Mr. *Denison.*] Was that a Bill that you were anxious to carry to the House of Lords?—No; there was no anxiety on our part to get the Bill passed, but having

Mr. *R. Baxter.*

19 June 1867.

having said what we had said to the Committee of the House of Commons, we felt bound to offer no opposition to the Bill in the House of Lords.

4683. Now to resume this story of the 7th of June 1860; was this statement by the Chairman made in the middle of the case; what he called the impressions of the Committee only?—Yes.

4684. Those impressions were given after two or three witnesses had been examined on the part of the companies, and the impressions were materially modified as the case went on?—Yes; those are the "impressions" early in the case, and previous to the first report of the Bill to the House, of course before it was re-committed.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. *Hawksley*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Denison*.

Mr. *Hawksley.*

4685. You are, as we pretty well know, a Civil Engineer of large experience, especially in gas works, and I may add water works?—I am; I have had large experience over a period of 37 years on my own account.

4686. Have you been consulted by a great many of the largest gas companies in the kingdom?—Yes.

4687. I believe that you have been consulted by all or most of these metropolitan companies?—Yes.

4688. Am I right in saying all of them?—I have been concerned in all the great metropolitan gas inquires, and I have also been concerned for many of the companies privately at different periods.

4689. You were examined in the year 1860, were you not?—Yes.

4690. You know, or at all events you think you know, the cost of making gas as well as most people?—I ought to do.

4691. And the cost of erecting works, and everything connected with the matter?—Yes.

4692. And also the amount of capital, far as it can be estimated, that there ought to be per ton of coal, and per head, and so on?—Yes.

4693. Those are all points which have been gone into by the witnesses who have been called by the promoters of this Bill, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Cleminshaw, and Professor Frankland?—Yes.

4694. Do you agree with the calculations of any of those gentlemen?—No; I consider them exceedingly erroneous.

4695. As they do not quite agree among themselves, we must take them in detail; first of all, with regard to Mr. Hughes's evidence, he proposes to make 18 candle gas from a mixture of Fifeshire cannel and Newcastle coal, and he thinks he can do it with a fair profit at 3 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 feet?—No; that is simply impossible.

4696. How much do you think that could be sold for?—The lowest price at which it could be done would be 5 *s.* 3 *d.*

4697. Dr. Frankland proposes to make 18 candle gas from a mixture of Newcastle and Wigan coal at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*?—That would cost 4 *s.* 9 *d.*, but instead of yielding 18 candle gas it would only yield 16¼.

4698. You mean that particular mixture?—Yes.

4699. Mr. Stevenson proposes to make 18 candle gas from Newcastle coal and Wigan cannel in certain proportions, and he agrees with Dr. Frankland in putting it at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, but his proportions are slightly different?—Yes; but Mr. Stevenson gets at that by taking the capital at 1 *l.* a head on the population, which is simply absurd, though I am sorry to say so strong a thing.

4700. It is a kind of hypothetical estimate?—No; it agrees pretty nearly with a consumption of five cubic feet per head in the winter months, whereas in London the consumption is more than 15 cubic feet per head; of course they must have works proportionate; there is such a thing as 1 *l.* per head for small works under particular circumstances, but it does not apply to any undertaking like this.

4701. Now, Mr. Cleminshaw's scheme is 18 candle gas from Newcastle and Wigan, but we do not seem able to make out exactly what he calculates to be the cost of it?—It is very difficult to know what he means, but the gas which he would supply by his mixture into the district is 15 9-10ths candle gas.

4702. Call it 16?—Yes; the cost of that would be 4 *s.* 10 *d.* or 5·8 *d.*

4703. You are prepared to go into any details upon those points that my learned

learned friends desire?—Yes, I have done it; I have taken their own memoranda and data, and those have been arranged, and not by me at all, in this printed form, but collected from the evidence; the printed form I will put in if you are willing to receive it.

Vide. Appendix.

4704. *Chairman.*] Have you shown it to the gentlemen on the other side?—No; I am only here as a witness; I have nothing to do with that.

Mr. *Denison.*] It is only printed so far as it is an abstract of the evidence already given.

Chairman.] If they are to cross-examine upon it, they may as well see it. [*A copy of the print (only) was handed to Mr. O'Malley.*]

Witness.] I have corrected those figures throughout accurately, as I believe, according to my best experience on the subject, and the corrections work out to the amounts I have given to you.

4705. Mr. *O'Malley.*] What is it that you have corrected?—The figures employed by those gentlemen in their several calculations.

4706. Mr. *Denison.*] Are the black ink figures printed those which have been given by those gentlemen?—Yes.

4707. And the red ink figures are your corrections?—Yes.

4708. *Chairman.*] Each calculation that was put in on the part of the promoters has been subjected by you to an examination, and this paper shows the difference between their views and yours?—Yes; what I consider to be the actual facts of the case.

4709. Mr. *Denison.*] The corrections in red ink, are the materials for arriving at the result, which you have just now stated in general terms?—Yes they are, with the exception of the value per candle.

4710. I will take the first page here; I see the page is headed "Mr. Hughes's plan for making 18 candle gas;" it is printed in black ink; "gas produced from three tons of cannel and seven tons of coal as above," so and so; you alter the three tons of cannel to eight tons, and the seven tons of coal into 11 tons?—Yes.

4711. Let us have this quite plain; Mr. Hughes gave evidence that his 18 candle gas could be made from three tons of cannel and seven tons of coal; do you agree with those figures?—No.

4712. What do you substitute?—The proportion would be eight tons of Fifeshire cannel to 11 tons of Newcastle coal, or what is here called Fifeshire cannel; I think he explained that it was the Lothian cannel; if the cannel he means is that cannel, it will produce 11,000 feet to the ton of 30 candle gas in the works, and no more.

4713. Accordingly you alter his 12,500 feet to 11,000 feet?—Yes.

4714. And you alter the 37,500 to 88,000?—Yes: but that is only because the proportion is eight tons.

4715. You substitute for his 35 candles 30 candles?—Yes.

4716. For what reason do you do that?—Because it will not produce more than 11,000 feet of 30 candle gas; and here I may mention that I was two months engaged on this very question, in making the most accurate experiments on the different Scotch coals, at the gas works at Glasgow, of the late John Thomas Couper, and also in going to all the gas works in Scotland, and to the majority of the large gas works in England for the purpose of ascertaining the actual facts, having no reference at all to this inquiry; I am perfectly familiar, therefore, with the productive power of most of those coals, and I know that in practice those coals will not produce more than 11,000 cubic feet to the ton on a year's working of 30 candle gas.

4717. I will take that as an illustration, but I will not go through the whole of them now; but I think the best thing I can do for all parties will be, to get this table put on the notes; and they must be put on the notes in such a way as to show the corrections. We will go to the cost per candle, as we may call it, shortly.

Chairman.] By the cost per candle do you mean rising from 12 candle?

Mr. *Denison.*] The cost per candle rising up to 20 candles, we need not go higher than 18 candles, I suppose.

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

4718. (To the *Witness*). Will you give me the result of your calculations about that?—Mr. Hughes's plan corrected work out to a cost of 3·49 *d.*, and therefore it is a fact as corrected. According to my view it becomes a fact, and that fact works out to 3·49 *d.* per candle.

4719. Professor Frankland's is how much?—Professor Frankland's in the same way, corrected, but in a very different manner, works out also to 3·49 *d.*

4720. How much did Mr. Stevenson's work out to?—Mr. Stevenson's calculations, corrected, work out to 3·55 *d.* per candle.

4721. And Mr. Cleminshaw's, how much?—Mr. Cleminshaw's, corrected, work out to 3·65 *d.* per candle.

4722. We may take the mean of all those as being $3\frac{1}{2}$ or very nearly; it is 3·54 exactly?—Yes.

4723. It is easy to estimate from those results the cost of any given number of candles, is it not?—Yes.

4724. Taking 12 candles, how much would that be?—That would be 3 *s.* 6 *d.*

4725. That is on that assumption?—Yes; 12 candle gas could be supplied in London at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, with some exceptions, with regard to things not taken into account here, which would be for the Committee to consider, and not for me to consider: there are some things not taken into account by me; for instance, this does not allow anything for contingencies, nor for accidents, nor for depreciation, nor for forming a reserve fund; but this is the net actual cost of the production to pay the present dividend and interest.

4726. Does it allow for waste?—Yes, it allows throughout one-sixth for waste, which is as near as possible; it is called waste, or leakage, but it is not so in fact; it is the difference between the gas made and the gas sold, and that is, as nearly as possible, the actual difference now in fact existing.

4727. Do you believe that that difference can be reduced by any contrivance which the companies could adopt?—Not to any considerable extent; the waste arises in a very small proportion from the main pipes, and in a much larger proportion from the iron service pipes which go into the houses; they are all very destructive, being of wrought iron; the waste also arises very much from over consumption by the public lamps, and also from the difference between the registration of the meters in the houses and the actual delivery: whenever a meter gets out of order, it gets out of order against the company; if there is a little hole in the drum, that supplies gas to the consumer without registration, supposing it is a wet meter: if the valve of the dry meter is not tight, or the diaphragm becomes leaky (which are common things), the gas then passes in a very uncertain proportion, to the consumer without registration. Then there is another loss (though I do not put that at so much), and that is from what is generally called stealage, from improper dealing with the meters, and tampering with them: all those things put together make up the one-sixth of waste; but I do not believe that the leakage from the mains (and I can speak with the fullest confidence on that) amounts to 3 per cent. out of the whole. When the ground over a gas pipe, in London, is opened, a very great smell is usually perceived; but it by no means follows that the gas has just come from the gas main; the cause of the smell is the leakage of the gas over a period of 40 or 50 years, and not the leakage of to-day; but that is an accumulation of the effects produced by leakage, frequently from the junctions of the service pipe with the main, and frequently from the decay of the service pipe, but only to a very small extent indeed from the main itself. There has been something said about endosmosis and exosmosis, but nothing of that kind takes place in cast iron, or in any metals; there is no transpiration, so to speak, of the gas from the one side of the metallic envelope and the air on the other side; there is no interchange whatever, and when the leakage occurs there is no entering in of the air to supply the place of the gas which comes out, no such thing exists; there is no pressure of the air inwards; we are perfectly certain of that from past experience: all we know is the differential pressure; that is the amount of pressure from the inside to the outside, and there is no such thing as a transfusion, if I may use the word, through the body of any metal.

4728. I am told to ask you this; does the heavy traffic of London make it more difficult to maintain the joints of the mains?—Yes, in some of the streets. Of course the heavy traffic of London is confined to a few streets, and in those streets there is no doubt a considerable detrimental effect produced.

4729. Do

4729. Do you mean in the way of leakage?—Yes, by the continual totter to which the pipes are subjected; but even that extends more to the loosening of the junctions than anything else.

4730. The junctions of the services with the mains?—Yes.

4731. And that leads to leakage?—Yes.

4732. The price at which 14 candle gas could be produced would be 4 *s.* 1½ *d.*, I think?—Yes.

4733. Then it is very easy to go on by 3½ *d.* stages, until we come to 18 candle gas, and that you make 5 *s.* 4 *d.*?—Yes.

4734. Now this estimate assumes that the quantity of the gas sold remains much the same at present in each district?—It assumes that, and the assumption is inaccurate to a very large extent. It assumes that the companies will still continue to sell 8,653,000,000 feet of gas per year; but the fact is this, that the moment you put on a higher quality, the consumption becomes almost exactly proportionately reduced; everybody turns the tap on. If a frost comes on, and we have not gas enough to supply through the night, we throw in a lot of cannel, and make a considerably richer gas, and the consequence is, that every one turns the tap down; then the gas which would not have lasted through the night, does last through the night. That is merely by way of illustration.

4735. You have got that worked out in figures, which are very simple, and the result of them is, that if the gas were raised to 18 candle gas, the consumption would, instead of this 8,600,000,000, become 6,450,000,000?—Yes, just about that. It is right to say what would take place on the other hand, because then the companies would make a fresh start; the dividend would come down to two-thirds of what it is now, and they would go on again increasing their consumption, year by year, until it got up again to the same quantity, and then they would be in the position which those calculations indicate; but during the period of transition there would be an enormous loss of dividend; but the parties who lent the money on interest, ordinary loans, of course would not suffer.

4736. Now, I have a reason for putting this. You say that the dividends would come down to about two-thirds of what they are; it now appears to require 1 *s.* 4¾ *d.*, on an average, to pay the dividends?—16·77 *d.*

4737. That is very like 1 *s.* 4¾ *d.*?—Yes.

4738. But, instead of that, if the consumption is to be reduced for some years to come in that proportion, it would want a profit of 1 *s.* 10¾ *d.*?—Yes, at the start, and then it would go on diminishing.

4739. *Chairman.*] Supposing a company to have arrived at the maximum, which with its present works it could supply, and to be obliged, in order to keep up the supply of 12 or 14 candle gas, to raise a very large additional capital and build new works, and suppose that company to turn to supplying 18 candle gas instead of 14 candle gas, would not, according to the argument which you have been addressing to us, the necessity for that outlay of additional capital in new works be postponed to a future period?—It would be to a certain future period, but the outlay must nevertheless take place for some time before they arrived at the present standard, because all the works almost universally (there are a very few exceptions) are fully employed, and it is only in consequence of the disasters which have happened in Parliament that they are not using new works now; they might have been utilising the works and the capital at the present moment.

4740. Mr. *Denison.*] Are you able to say from any experience of your own whether people are wanting cheaper gas or a higher power of gas?—I am obliged to distinguish between the intelligent part of the public and those who are uninformed on this subject; 9-10ths of the people only look to the question of nominal cheapness, that is to say, the low figure charged for the gas; but there is another class of people, the West-end class in particular, who, no doubt, would be better satisfied with a higher quality of gas, paying more for it; but that is not the feeling of the bulk of the population.

4741. The gas agitation seems to be rather on the subject of cheap gas than improved gas?—Yes; that is the case not only in the metropolis but all over England.

4742. At all events in the metropolis it is so?—Yes.

4743. We have heard that the use of gas for heating purposes is increasing much; is the higher quality of gas equally good for heating purposes?—The

Mr. *Hawksley*

19 June 1867.

higher quality of gas will answer the purpose very well, but for heating purposes it is less valuable than the lower quality of gas, inasmuch as it does not give off so much heat, though it gives more light; therefore you have to pay, so far as the cooking goes, a higher price for a worse article; a worse article for cooking purposes.

4744. *Chairman.*] But do you wish to represent to the Committee that if the subject before us were now that of a new supply of gas, it would, upon the whole, be better for the public to give them a cheap inferior gas than to give them a superior gas at a higher price?—It would be better to give to the public *a* superior, but I do not say *the* superior gas, if it is supposed that 18 candle gas is to be given under the particular circumstances to London, but a superior gas at a higher price.

4745. Are we to understand you as representing to the Committee, that an inferior gas at a low price would be a greater advantage to the community, taking cooking into account, than a higher quality of gas at a proportionately higher price?—By no means.

4746. Mr. *Lefevre.*] There is very little gas used for heating purposes, I suppose?—Very little in London, but it is increasing, and in some places, Liverpool for instance, it is used enormously.

4747. *Chairman.*] But we should entirely misinterpret the drift of your argument if we supposed you to be recommending an inferior gas?—Certainly.

4748. Mr. *Denison.*] I am not sure, taking into account the last thing you stated, I mean the decrease in the quantity, whether you have got any calculation of what the price ought to be, say for 18 candle gas; you gave it me on a certain basis which you say is wrong?—No; I say that the net cost of 18 candle gas, supposing the same quantity to be sold as is now sold, would be 5 *s.* 4 *d.*

4749. You also stated that the same quantity would not be sold, which is obvious. Do the figures enable you to tell the Committee what would be the price for 18 candle gas if the companies were compelled to give it at once, or very soon?—It would be about 4 *d.*

4750. You mean 4 *d.* a candle?—Yes; to make the dividend what it is now. But I must explain that that 4 *d.* which would press so heavily on the shareholders in the first year would be somewhat diminished the second year, still further diminished in the third year, and so on, until the consumption became readjusted. But the effect of an important change of that kind would be seriously to injure the shareholders in the first instance.

4751. May I put it thus; that if the companies are to be forced to give 18 candle gas, they cannot afford to give it as at present at a less price than that fixed by the Act of 1860, which runs up to 6 *s.* for 20 candle gas?—Yes.

4752. Taking off the two fourpences?—Fourpence.

4753. That comes to 5 *s.* 4 *d.* for 18 candle gas?—Yes.

4754. Is that the figure which you say is the right one for 18 candle gas, taking all those things into account?—No; the 5 *s.* 4 *d.* is the figure supposing the consumption to remain undiminished; but if any allowance is to be made in respect of the diminution of the consumption, 4 *d.* more would be needed in the first year to retain the dividend and interest at the same rate as it is at present.

4755. Mr. *Goldney.*] The 5 *s.* 4*d.* would be 5 *s.* 8*d.*?—Yes.

4756. Mr. *Denison.*] The London Gas Company supply both cannel and common gas; they do that in the Grosvenor district?—Yes.

4757. Do you know in what proportions those two gases are demanded by the consumers there?—No; I did know; but I have forgotten; I have a memorandum of that somewhere.

4758. I daresay nobody will object to your looking at this paper, and seeing if it agrees with yours?

4759. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I would rather my learned friend did not put leading questions; is it your own memorandum?—It is not.

4760. Mr. *Denison.*] Are you able to say from your recollection what it is?—No, I am not.

4761. You say that you entirely disbelieve in that estimate of 1 *l.* per head of population, or per ton for capital; have you made any estimate yourself of that. If we are to take that mode of reckoning, we should have it both ways?—First, with regard to the population, I know it must exceed 2 *l.* per head; it is difficult to be minute upon such a rough mode of calculation as that. But I will inform the Committee that I am the engineer of the Nottingham Gas Company.

Company, and that there, where everything is worked out as cheaply as possible, the capital of the company is 1 *l.* 15 *s.* per head on the population, and in most cases where the gas is very freely taken, there are a large number of meters to be taken into consideration, and a large floating capital is requisite I may say that there are very few towns indeed in which the capital is less than 2 *l.* per head on the population. There was a time when it was only 1 *l.* per head on the population, it is quite true; but from a consumption of 5 feet upon the population it is now grown in many towns to 10 feet, and in others, as is the case in Nottingham, to 14 or 15 feet, and in London to a quantity exceeding that; when I mention that, in the City of London, the consumption is 50 feet per head upon the population, it can be easily imagined that no such estimate as that can apply at all.

4762. The mode of calculation adopted by one of those gentlemen was so much capital per ton of the coal carbonised?—Yes, that is a much nearer way of doing it than the other, but there are a great number of inaccuracies upon it. I will refer again, merely by way of explanation, to Nottingham; there the expenditure is 6 *l.* per ton upon the population.

4763. *Chairman.*] Have you the exclusive supply at Nottingham?—Yes, the exclusive supply; and at Nottingham the expense of construction and the cost of labour are more than one-third less than in London; we get the brickwork done there at 12 *s.* per cubic yard, and it is excellent brickwork, while in London it costs 25 *s.* per cubic yard. So again, with regard to laying the pipes in the streets in London, the cost of laying the pipes in the streets where there are all those large stones and a great stratum of concrete beneath, is enormous: it is at least three times as much, and in many cases in the City of London, and so on, five times as much as it is in Nottingham. These modes of estimation are very rough indeed, but the latter one is much nearer the fact than the other, because, making allowance for the difference in the value of the materials, and supposing in all cases that every work is fully employed, you can make some approximation, but the cost obviously depends on the number of meters for one thing; in Nottingham we have 17,000 meters; all those are a part of the capital of the company that has to be assessed upon the tons of coal used; then, again, we have 37,000 *l.* spent in meters, and 25,000 *l.* in the floating capital; all that has to be assessed, and so it has to be assessed upon the number of tons of coal used; what may be right in one place may be totally wrong in another.

4764. Mr. *Goldney.*] Is the leasing of meters a profit or a loss to a company?—It was a profit at one time, but it is not now; in most cases they lose by it since the passing of the Act called Lord Redesdale's Act.

4765. *Chairman.*] What quality of gas do they supply at Nottingham?—Eighteen candle gas in the works, and 16 candle gas in the town; it loses two candles in travelling.

4766. Mr. *Denison.*] What is that gas made of?—That Nottingham gas is made of four-fifths exactly of the best South Yorkshire coal, the Barnsley coal, which is very rich, and of one-fifth of Wigan cannel.

4767. Should we call it 18 candle gas or 16 candle gas?—Sixteen candle gas.

4768. *Chairman.*] What is the price of that gas?—The price is 3 *s.* for nearly the whole, coming down by slow degrees 1 *d.* each year to 2 *s.* 9 *d.* for the public lamps: some of them are very large, but we only get 5½ per cent. dividend; that makes the difference: then, as a matter of course the wages are less, and the cost of production is less.

4769. Mr. *Peel.*] That is 3 *s.* for 16 candle gas delivered?—Yes, 16 candle gas delivered.

4770. What we should call 16 candle gas?—Yes; but then we only get 5½ per cent. dividend: we are losing money, and we are just about to increase the price 2 *d.* per 1,000 feet; the cost of common coal has got up 1 *s.* this year, and cannel has got up 2 *s.* (the contract was made about a fortnight or three weeks ago), and that alone upon between 40,000 tons and 50,000 tons, makes a very large difference: then, again, the value of the residual products has gone down very much; tar and ammoniacal liquors are worth a great deal less than they were, and coke, in consequence of the large quantity which is being manufactured year by year, is becoming a drug on the hands of almost all the gas companies, and is forced off at a very low price.

4771. Mr. *Denison.*] You mentioned the difference of wages between London

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

and Nottingham; you have got some knowledge I think, of the rate at which wages have been gradually increasing for some years past?—Yes; I can say that coal and wages have, on the average, increased at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum.

4772. That amounts to doubling in how many years?—In 47 or 48 years, and that is really what has taken place.

4773. Of course if wages go up, the cost of almost all materials must go up?—Everything depends on wages; if a man sells bricks, the cost of the bricks is the cost of labour; if you get coal, the cost of coal is the cost of labour in raising the coal; the cost of everything in this country depends on the price of labour; there is scarcely anything in the cost but labour.

4774. Speaking roughly, you say that the price of everything doubles in about 46 years?

Mr. *Goldney.*] What is the price of coal at Nottingham?

Witness.] The average price of coal last year was almost exactly 12 *s.* per ton, and now it would be almost exactly 13 *s.* per ton.

4775. That is South Yorkshire coal I suppose?—Yes; it is better coal than Newcastle coal.

4776. Mr. *Denison.*] Is that the average price of the coal and the cannel?—Yes; the coal and the cannel. It would be rather over 13 *s.* per ton, because cannel has risen 2 *s.* per ton, while ordinary coal has risen 1 *s.*

4777. Mr. *Goldney.*] But that 12 *s.* per ton was the average price of the coal sold to the company from which the gas is made?—Yes.

4778. Mr. *Denison.*] But at present, I think you say it is 13 *s.*?—It is rather over 13 *s.* perhaps.

4779. Now, some of the witnesses were advocates for uniformity of price, and they pointed out that one side of a street might be 3 *s.* 6 *d.* and the other side 4 *s.*; but can that be avoided in a great place like London, divided as it is?—Certainly not. In many places Parliament has spontaneously enforced increased price, even in some towns where there is only one company. The inner circle is on a low price, and the outer circle has an increased price. That is the case at Nottingham; among a great many other places, the difference there is 1 *s.*; so that at Nottingham you may, in a certain place, have gas at 3 *s.* on one side, and 4 *s.* on the other.

4780. Two adjacent houses, perhaps?—If the boundary of the district passed between them it would be so; but I do not know of such a case.

4781. I suppose you know the offer which the companies made last year through my learned friend Mr. Hope Scott?—Yes.

4782. Does it occur to you to suggest anything else which can, consistently with the rights of the shareholders, be offered to the public?—I think that on one point there is something. I believe that a better system of audit might be introduced, which would be satisfactory to the public; but it should be only a limited audit having regard in the main to two or three things, so as not to limit the discretion of the directors. The audit should be directed, in my opinion, to the proper aportionment of the outlays between the capital and the revenue, that is very material.

4783. If much is made of that by any of the witnesses, you are willing to concede that?—Oh, dear, yes; suspicions have been excited that the companies are dealing improperly with the capital and the revenue; I have reason to believe that there are no such improper dealings, but in order to satisfy the public on a point in which no doubt they are interested, it would be very desirable that the auditor should pay particular attention to that point.

4784. As the evidence of last year is referred to the Committee, and as you were examined last year about the sulphur in gas——

Mr. *O'Malley.*] We are not going into that question at the present time.

Mr. *Denison.*] The word "purity" was used, which as a matter of course includes sulphur.

Chairman.] Do you mean that you do not ask for any conditions with regard to that?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Yes, on other parts of the Bill we do.

Mr. *Denison.*] I do not care when I do it; but you used the words, "purity," "illuminating power," and "price."

Chairman.] Yes.

4785. Mr. *Denison* (to the *Witness*).] Is it very difficult to determine first of all the quantity of sulphur that there is in the gas?—Very difficult; there are great disputes upon the subject; it is exceedingly easy to find the quantity of sulphur in the form of sulphuretted hydrogen, but it is exceedingly difficult to find the quantity of sulphur in the form of bi-sulphide of carbon, or in other analogous compounds, because the first is impossible to test, and the other is not. But there are among philosophers and chemists at the present time the greatest difference of opinion on that subject; one man will bring out a result of 20 grains where another contends for 60 and 70 grains.

4786. With regard to getting the sulphur out, is there any difference in those two forms with respect to the power of getting rid of it?—Any strong alkaline matter will get rid of the bi-sulphide to a very large extent, and, if it were possible, to reintroduce the use of lime into the gas works of London, the gas works would be very materially improved, and the quantity of sulphur would be reduced to one-half of what it is now. But then we have another class of philosophers to deal with, namely, sanitary philosophers, who object to the use of lime, because they say that the smell is a nuisance, and so on; and the Gas Companies of London have been driven to use oxide of iron, which has no chemical effect upon the bi-sulphide, although it acts in a most powerful degree on the sulphuretted hydrogen.

4787. *Chairman.*] I think you have stated that the greater part of the loss from leakage was from the service pipes and not from the main pipes?—Upon a comparison betwen the main and service pipes, unquestionably the greatest loss is from the service pipe, but I did not mean to convey to the Committee that it extended to a very large proportion of the one-sixth.

4788. But you said that it would be limited to 3 per cent. taken on the mains only?—Yes, taken on the mains only.

4789. Now if either in the hands of a company, or of any competing supply, large works were placed at a considerable distance from London down the Thames, would there be a great loss in what is called leakage in the mains between that place and the centre of London?—No; it would be almost nothing.

4790. Would there be any objection on the part of the sanitary philosophers, as you call them, to using lime at such new works?—I think not; I think there ought not to be; the difficulty is in getting rid of it for any useful purpose; agriculturists over a large part of England will scarcely take it; there are certain places, such as Yorkshire and a few other places, where the farmers will take it with avidity, but in all other places it is a drug, and I do not know how, on the margin of Essex, so large a quantity could be disposed of. But why the farmers are averse to use it I cannot say; we have now at Nottingham, in the middle of a fine agricultural district, an accumulation of about 2,000 tons, we do not know what to do with it, and we would give it away to any farmer who would pay us a shilling a load for it.

4791. Mr. *Denison.*] Now to follow out this suggestion of carrying the works down the Thames, could the gas be carried right through London without any difference in the pressure of the gas?—The difference of pressure would of course be very great, but the loss of gas on a well laid main-pipe is very insignificant indeed. I am able to speak in the strongest possible manner on that subject, because I have been laying, even recently, main-pipes many miles in length. My practice is, to put a meter on to the main before it is used for any purpose whatever, so as to ascertain whether the main is properly laid or not; and in a recent experiment the quantity which was lost upon, I think four miles, was only about 200 feet in 24 hours.

4792. What sized main was it?—It varied from 10 inches down to perhaps six or seven inches.

4793. What sized main would be required for having the works somewhere down the Thames, and carrying the mains up to London?—They would be enormous; but I will calculate. I am surprised at the result of the calculation, and I should like to go through the figures again, but the result is, that it would take nearly 20 mains of three feet diameter.

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

4794. Or one main of 13 feet diameter, or something more?—That would be impracticable.

4795. Mr. *Goldney.*] Take four feet?—It would be between 11 or 12, or something of that kind, but there is a great difficulty in the introduction of large mains in London, because the streets are so occupied by gas-pipes, water-pipes, telegraph-pipes, sewers, and all manner of contrivances, so that a very large pipe cannot be got through the principal streets. I believe that now it is pretty well known that a three feet pipe is about the limit with which you can deal in London.

4796. Mr. *Denison.*] I find that last year there was some evidence given in favour of the Corporation Bill, which was rejected, and Mr. Cliff then stated, in answer to a question which was put to him, that he had two mains which were 40 inches in diameter. That was the City of London alone?—Yes; only to supply the City.

4797. I understand you to say, that neither with the 11 mains of four feet in diameter, nor with the one pipe of 13 feet in diameter, nor with the 20 pipes of three feet in diameter, could you practically carry the mains from some place down the Thames to supply all London?—No; concentration beyond a very small amount is always effected at a very serious loss. I should like to explain that very particularly. If I had a district to supply, the length of which may be represented by the upper part of this quill, I only want a main of the diameter that is represented by the quill itself. If, however, I have a large district to supply, a much larger district, say a district which may be represented by the whole length of the quill, I must then have a main beginning at the larger end, which is the size of the quill. Now the average of the size of the main is not the average of the feathery end of the quill at all, as it would be if I could divide it into two, and supply each of them from two separate stations. I should then only want a main from each, which would be represented by the thin end of the quill; but if I take it from a concentrated station, I want a main that is represented by the thick end of the quill, because I must carry to this thick end not only the gas required for distribution in that district, but plus that all the gas which is wanted for distribution in the other district. And consequently it does occur that concentration is a very expensive thing indeed, and accordingly (I am referring again to Nottingham) we take gas from the works at three points of a triangle, and then each distributes over the district; the one helps the other, all the mains being united, and we have the mains only at the thin end of the quill, whereas, otherwise we should want mains at the thick end of the quill.

4798. At all events it would involve a very enormous cost indeed, any such re-arrangement of the companies, putting them outside London with new mains?—Yes.

4799. That would be measured by several million pounds at least?—No doubt. The cost in London of constructing gas works is about 240 *l.* per retort, whereas in the country we can do it at about 160 *l.*; that is for the station alone, without the mains.

4800. Now, to return to sulphur; it is the case, is it not, that the sulphur burnt in our own fires in houses is entirely set free into the air?—Yes; it passes up the chimney.

4801. A very great deal more sulphur goes out from the burning coal in the fire-places than from burning the same quantity of coal in gas retorts and making it into gas?—Yes; because there is a certain quantity left in the coke; another very large quantity is taken up by the lime and the ammoniacal liquor, and only a very small proportion, about 20 grains out of more than 200 grains, is left in the gas. Crude gas usually contains somewhat more than 200 grains in the 100 cubic feet, whereas after purification it only contains about 20 grains, so that nine-tenths are taken out and one-tenth is left in.

4802. When we have gentlemen speaking of injury to their boots and their books, and everything of that kind, that is done by the sulphurous acid in the air rather than by the products of the gas, is it not?—Yes.

Chairman.] Is there a controversy on this part of the Bill which relates to purity?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] There is, but we have not opened that part of the case yet at all; at all events there is a mode of purification suggested which we propose to offer evidence upon.

4803. Mr.

4803. Mr. *Denison.*] The effects of sulphur, talked of last year, are due in a very much higher degree to the coal burnt in our own fire-places than to the gas made in the gas works?—Yes; but the effect is due in the main, not to the sulphur at all, but to the heat of the atmosphere, and in places where no gas is burnt, if there is considerable heat, the leather of boots becomes very much dried, and the binding of books decays with very great rapidity. At the same time I am not indisposed to admit that any quantity of sulphur has, of course, the same effect.

4804. I have got a note of your evidence at the word "ammonia;" I conclude that you have something to say about that, unless we had better postpone that?—

Chairman.] I take some blame to myself, but I did not understand that you were going at such length into this.

Mr. *Denison.*] Well, take public lamps, that is a question of price; there is often a controversy whether they should be supplied at a lower price or not.

Witness.] They are the worst consumers that a gas company has; every public lamp is a sort of little consumer of one light; it has its own separate service pipe and its own separate leakage; it has all the wasteful incidents of a single jet consumer, and the supply of public lamps is the most expensive of any supply which a Gas Company gives; and this effect is produced by supplying the public lamps, at an unduly cheap rate, so that what is taken off from the price charged to the public lamps is put on other consumers; the company has to make its dividend, and what it cannot get out of one supply it gets out of another. The effect is to relieve the rates of the non-gas consuming public at the expense of the gas consuming public.

4805. Now, a word about the burners; I suppose you know the views put forward on the other side about the different burners in use in 1860 and now; do you agree with those statements?—I do not; they are not founded on facts; I used as good a burner in the year 1840 (it was a commercial burner which anybody could have) as has ever been used or contrived since.

Chairman.] We have agreed to suppose up to the end of these discussions, that when we mention any particular number of candles we are speaking with regard to the year 1860, and that if we change that for any new burner we shall make due allowance for the change.

Mr. *Denison.*] It is stated against us, that when we offer to give 14 candle gas by Sugg's burner we are only offering to give substantially the same as we gave under the name of 12 candle gas in the year 1860.

Chairman.] Yes, but by putting in Sugg's name in that statement, you have entitled us to assume that you mean to give two candles more.

Mr. *Denison.*] Yes, quite so.

Chairman.] We shall feel ourselves quite at liberty to insist upon that.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

4806. Do you mean to represent to the Committee that you only pay 5½ per cent. dividend upon your capital at Nottingham?—I do.

4807. Has your capital not been doubled by the operation of Acts of Parliament?—No; there was a certain portion of the capital in the year 1849, or thereabouts, which was doubled, and the dividend on that capital was reduced one-half; then we were required to sell our shares by auction, and apply the premiums without receiving a dividend: the one has almost exactly balanced the other by this time, so that the capital I told you is the real and actual capital invested in the undertaking.

4808. Your statement drives me to another conclusion; in the year 1849 how much capital underwent the operation of being nominally doubled?—I think 40,000 *l.*

4809. That was made 80,000 *l.*, bearing half the dividend?—Yes.

4810. How

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

4810. How much is your capital now?—Do you mean in use; it is 264,000 *l.*

4811. Paid up?—Paid up in that way.

4812. But I said paid up?—Paid up in that way; that is to say——

4813. Is it paid up capital?—It is, and it is not; 40,000 *l.* of that is not paid up in calls upon the shareholders, but more than 30,000 *l.* of it has been realised by premiums on shares sold; the one very nearly balances the other, and therefore I may truly enough say to this Committee that within a mere trifle, which I cannot state at this moment, the sum I have mentioned is actually in use in the works.

4814. Mr. *Peel.*] What is the actual amount of money received from the shareholders directly, as payment upon their shares, independently of any premiums, but simply paid-up capital?—The amount of the share capital is 230,000 *l.*, and borrowed money 34,000 *l.*; that 230,000 *l.* includes the duplication of the 40,000 *l.*, so that the money paid up on the calls would be about 190,000 *l.*; then, in addition to that, there is the money that has been brought in by the shareholders not arising upon calls, but arising on the premiums, and that amounts to somewhere about 30,000 *l.*

4815. *Chairman.*] Without going into the minutiæ of your financial accounts, you state to us that the capital which you describe as bearing the 5½ per cent. dividend has all of it been laid out, and is now existing in the form of works which are used to supply gas to the public?—Yes; that sum and something more.

4816. Mr. *O'Malley.*] You were examined in the year 1860, were you not?—Yes.

4817. Did you state at that time that the dividend of the Nottingham Company varied; that some part of the capital paid 12 per cent., others 14 per cent., some 10 per cent., and that another part paid 5½ per cent?—It all pays 5½ per cent., but taking into account the duplication, there is a portion which would (but for the duplication) be paying 11 per cent.; then there is another portion which pays nothing at all, and that balances the one with the other.

4818. Did you say this in the year 1860; that some part of your capital pays 12 per cent., some 14 per cent,, some 10 per cent., and another 5 per cent?—Undoubtedly, but it is subject to this explanation which I am giving.

4819. First of all, how much of the capital pays 5½ per cent.?—I cannot tell you, but it is a very large quantity.

4820. But how much?—I cannot tell you.

4821. Can you tell me within a few thousand pounds?—No, I cannot.

4822. Are you not the manager of those works, the *fac-totum* of the works?—I am engineer of the company, and I am acquainted with everything, but I do not carry everything in my head; still I can tell you by a calculation.

4823. Mr. *Peel.*] Am I right in supposing that the capital is 264,000 *l.*, that there has been 190,000 *l.* actually paid for calls on shares, and 40,000 *l.* made by the premiums on the new shares sold?—That is about 30,000 *l.*, to the best of my recollection.

4824. £.34,000 borrowed, 190,000 *l.* paid on calls, and the remainder would be 40,000 *l.* to make up the 264,000 *l.*?—No; I mean ——

4825. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I will ask you this; do you mean now, sitting there, to tell the Committee that you cannot say how much of your capital pays 5½ per cent.?—I cannot, but I will try.

4826. Can you tell us within 10,000 *l.*—No; I own that I cannot at once answer the questions as you put them, because I have not the figures in my mind, but I can make a calculation, for I know the facts.

4827. I ask you again, can you tell me within 20,000 *l.* how much of your capital pays 5½ per cent.?—I can by entering into a calculation, but not without.

4828. *Chairman.*] I may be mistaken, but I do not think that there is any controversy between you on this point; I understand the witness to say that the whole of the capital upon an average pays 5½ per cent., and that the whole of it is in existence in the shape of works in actual use, but that there are subordinate arrangements among themselves by which a portion of their capital has no right to any dividend, and another portion has a right to a higher dividend than 5½ per cent.; is that a correct view of what you have been saying?—It is perfectly correct.

4829. Mr.

4829. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Your nominal capital is 264,000 *l.*?—Yes.

4830. How much of this capital has been paid by premiums on shares put up by auction?—I really cannot tell you, but I will try to make the calculation for you if you like, and I will tell you after that is made, as nearly as I can.

4831. Did you not tell us a few minutes ago, that you expected to be able to do so, because you said that 34,000 *l.* was the amount of the premiums paid?—No; I said that 34,000 *l.* was the amount of the borrowed money.

Chairman.] If you really want to shake the credit of the witness, I do not like to stop the cross-examination, but I do not think that there is any real controversy between you. Do you mean, Mr. O'Malley, that you do not believe his statement?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Unquestionably, according to my instructions I do not believe the statement.

Witness.] If you would let me tell the whole story it would only take one-fourth of the time.

4832. What was the amount of the last dividend that you paid?—£. 12,650.

4833. You cannot tell me what amount of capital pays 12 per cent., what amount pays 14 per cent., and what amount pays 10 per cent.?—No; but if you will let me explain that, instead of repeating the question, without giving me an opportunity of answering, I will try and do so. In the year 1818 that company was incorporated with a capital of 16,000 *l.*, and it went on with that capital until about the year 1840.

Chairman.] The only point which is relevant is, how far the example of Nottingham illustrates the price which we should put into this Bill; and Mr. Hawksley seems to have gone into that subject at great length on the 14th of June 1860, in the Blue Book which is referred to us.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I forgot that that evidence was referred to the Committee, Sir.

4834. (To the *Witness.*) You have told us that you deliver 16 candle gas at the consumer's meter at Nottingham?—Yes.

4835. Do you not make the gas between 18 and 19 candles, and deliver 17 candle gas?—No; we make between 18 and 19 candle gas, and these are the daily returns to me of what the quality of the gas is in the town; what it is at the works, and what it is delivered.

4836. I will call your attention to this; you were examined as a witness before the Brighton Committee last year?—Yes; I was examined in a very peculiar way.

4837. Whether in a very peculiar way, or not, you were examined?—Yes.

4838. And you were asked what your standard was at Nottingham?—Yes.

4839. Did you say, "the standard under the Act of Parliament is, I think, 12 candle gas, but we have found it desirable to improve the quality of the gas from time to time, until now we send it out of the works at between 18 and 19 candles, and we deliver it into the town at about 17"?—Yes.

4840. Was that true?—I have no doubt it was, if you have got it there.

4841. Is there anything to alter that?—Nothing, except the fluctuations in the quantity of the coals, and those fluctuations are all indicated in these papers. Here are the papers, if you like to look at them.

4842. I do not want your papers; I want to know what you said; did you say that at that time you produced that gas by one-fifth of cannel coal?—Yes; at least I do not know that I said so; I have no recollection of that; but it is a fact that we do.

4843. I will read to you the exact question: "I suppose that at Nottingham the gas is very much cheaper than at Brighton?—Cannel coal is 22 *s.*, and we use one-fifth."—Yes.

4844. That is 20 per cent.?—Yes, that is a fact; I had not even the knowledge that I had been examined; I have no recollection of it, but it is exactly what I have stated to the Committee.

4845. Did you say that, at Brighton, 15 candle gas could be produced at 12½ per

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

per cent. of cannel coal?—That seems very likely; it is about that I should think.

4846. I am asking you now did you say so?—I cannot tell you; I have not read that evidence, I do not possess it; but it agrees very accurately with the facts.

4847. Let us have it clear; if it is 12½ per cent. now, be it so: were you a witness upon an arbitration between Mr. Croll and the Great Central Gas Consumers Company?—I think I was, but I am not very certain; I was prepared to be a witness, but I recollect nothing of the fact (it is a good many years ago), as to whether I was called, or not; I attended the arbitration to a certainty.

4848. Do you remember that the contest between them was a contest about 18 candle gas?—No, I do not.

4849. Did you say this, "I think a penny per candle per thousand feet is a fair price for increase beyond 12 candles of 140 grains"?—I am certain I did not.

4850. Will you look at this book?—No; allow me to finish; Mr. Croll was a mere manufacturer of gas into the gas-holder; and it might be, and it probably was so, that it would only cost Mr. Croll a penny more to put that gas into the gas-holder; but then there was all the other question; you would have to add the expenses of the company, the expenses of the dividends, and various other things.

4851. I am not asking you the expense of the dividend, or anything of that kind; but did you say that a penny per candle was the increase of price in the material for the making of it?—I really cannot tell you; I do not know, for I have not the most remote recollection: if you inquire whether I said so and so, you know the rule is to put the paper from which you are questioning me into my hand first, and let me read it.

4852. Here it is (*handing a printed book to the Witness*).

Mr. *Richards.*] What is that print?

Mr. *O'Malley.*] That is a print of the evidence that took place upon Croll's arbitration.

Mr. *Richards.*] It is a print of which we know nothing whatever.

Chairman.] The witness is asked whether, upon a former occasion, he said a certain thing; that is a fair question; then he himself asks to look at the report of what he said, from which he is being questioned.

Witness.] This is altogether a different thing; it is quite amusing when it is understood.

4853. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Will you explain it?—This only relates to the use of common coal, and the question is simply as to some claim, made by Mr. Croll, with regard to a difference in illuminating power with common coal upon a contract which he had; he stated that in consequence of some legislative interference, he had been obliged to improve the quality of his gas a little; and the question is, within what limits, and at what price, the company should pay him for that small improvement. I have given what I believe to be a very fair answer upon such a question as that; it relates to a question as between gas of 10½ candles quality and gas of 12 candles quality.

4854. Mr. *Burke.*] Not 18 as was stated?—No; it has nothing to do with the question raised before this Committee; what it turns upon is simply this: whether a man using the same coal shall distil it a little less to get off the strong beer as I may say instead of distilling it so much more and getting off the weak beer; that is the whole question, as to whether Mr. Croll should have for that operation an allowance of something more, and I there stated, apparently without much calculation—

4855. *Chairman.*] Never mind what you did state; the question put to you was, whether it was a question of raising 12 candle gas up to 18 candle gas?—No, not at all; it did not involve any cannel at all.

4856. Mr. *O'Malley.*] You have told the Committee now that it was a question of raising it within the limits of common Newcastle coal; to what limit?—To 12 candles.

4857. It was 12 candle gas you started from?—No, it was not; the Parliamentary

mentary standard in the Bill which was passed by the Right Honourable Chairman of this Committee was 10 candles.

4858. You have not answered the question I asked you. Your words are: "I should think a penny per candle per 1,000 feet a fair price for increase beyond 12 candles of illuminating power?—There was a contract between Mr. Croll and the company, under which Mr. Croll was to make their gas for them into the gas-holder, at something like (if I remember rightly) 16 per 1,000 feet. Mr. Croll was simply a manufacturer of that gas. Then some legislative change took place, and the quality had to be slightly raised, and the company and Mr. Croll got into litigation about the contract. It was referred to arbitration, and I was asked the question as to some small quantity of the kind I mentioned, what would be a fair compensation to him as a contractor for that change.

4859. Do you mean to represent to the Committee that the question was not with respect to raising the gas to 16 candle gas of 140 grains?—I feel very confident of that, because there was no such thing known at that time.

4860. Have you any objection to this book being referred to as a test of your evidence?—Yes, I have certainly, because I know nothing about the book; I cannot say that the book represents truly what I said; there is no question and no answer.

Chairman (To Mr. *O'Malley.*)] If we are to be concerned with the book it must be put in regularly, and before we take it in we must see that it is relevant. At present, the only use made of the book has been that you have asked the witness certain questions to test the accuracy of his present statements, and he begged to look at the subject matter upon which you desired to contradict him; we have no further cognisance of the book at present.

4861. Mr. *O'Malley.*] I ask you again, do you mean to state to the Committee that the question was about raising the gas to 12 candles?—No, I do not say that either one way or the other, because it was a great number of years ago, and I have no recollection upon the subject excepting what I see in the book itself; and that book is not a book of the evidence, but it is a book which somebody has chosen to print—not an authoritative book at all; there is no question and no answer; it appears to be an abstract as it would be in a newspaper.

4862. *Chairman.*] You told us just now that there would be a difference in the price per candle according as it was calculated, not as between the company and the consumer, but as between the company and the contractor, the contractor only being concerned with the manufacture of the gas for the company?—Yes.

4863. Did I understand you to say that 1 *d.* per candle would be a fair amount, put in that latter regard only?—Not at all.

4864. Then what is the difference, in your opinion; you told us that 3½ *d.* would be about the price in the former of those two regards, did you not?—Yes; 3½ *d.* is the actual additional cost.

4865. But in one of your former answers you have drawn a distinction between what ought to be called the charge per candle as between the company and the consumer, and as between the company and the contractor?—Yes.

4866. Did you mean your 3½ *d.* to be as between the company and the consumer, or as between the company and the contractor?—Between the company and the consumer.

4867. Now, will you tell us what you think it ought to be between the company and the contractor?—That is very difficult to say without an independent calculation for that purpose in the case in question; and perhaps you will allow me to state that it was only a question of distilling off so much more or so much less from the same quality of coal; and there is a great difference between using these expensive coals which are now spoken of, and which would come to 40 *s.* a ton, and the case of that company which was actually getting its coal at that time, I believe, at 12 *s.* a ton; that is a very different thing.

4868. But I want to pursue the question; I do not care about any bygone controversy between Mr. Croll and anybody; that is of no consequence for this Committee: what I want to know is, what are the considerations which influence you in fixing 3½ *d.* as between the consumer and the company, and in fixing some smaller sum as between the company and a contractor?—In the first place, what I have calculated here is the actual cost of the commodity delivered

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

at the consumer's meter, taking into account the loss of one-sixth that enters materially into a calculation of this kind. Then I have in the case as it presents itself now, to take into account the great increase in the cost of all coals.

4869. The contractor would have to pay for the coals, would he not?—The contractor would have to pay for the coals, but pardon me for drawing your attention to it in this way; if the contractor is bound to buy cannel coal he gets a less quantity and a worse quality of coke.

4870. I am not going through the argument. You have told us that when you estimated $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* as between the company and the consumer, you included a great many considerations which as between the company and a contractor you would not have included?—Yes.

4871. Then I want you to exclude these considerations, and to furnish us with your opinion as to what it would be as between the company and a contractor?—I will endeavour to make this clear to you, but the difficulty is in reducing it in a moment to calculation.

4872. There cannot be a difficulty in reducing it, because you must have begun in that way, the foundation of your larger calculation must have been the smaller one, which I want to have?—I beg your pardon, I think not at all.

4873. Before you added those charges for depreciation, and those other things which you say it is just to take in as between the company and the consumer, you must have begun with the actual cost, which is what I want as between the company and the contractor?—Yes.

4874. Will you now state what that actual cost was which was the basis of your $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* calculation?—I will tell you. The cost arises, first, from the large proportion of cannel which has to be introduced; it arises, secondly, from the diminished value of the products in a case in which cannel is used; it then is affected by the amount of the leakage, which the other case is not, and consequently, what as by way of compensation might be a fair sum to give to a contractor who has only to deliver the gas at the meter, and has not to change the kind of coal he uses, is very different from what it would be in a case where he has to do all those things.

4875. Be so good as to attend to my question, and give me an answer. I do not want you to argue with the Committee why there should be additional considerations taken in as between the company and the consumer, to those that would be taken in as between the company and the contractor. I simply want you to state, in the calculation of your $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, between the company and the consumer, how much would be the simple charge as between the company and the contractor, and how much would be due to the rest?—I will endeavour to make it out, but I cannot instantly answer the question. (*After making a calculation.*) The difference appears to be at present prices about $2\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* per candle or $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*

4876. What is that $2\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* or $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*?—That consists of the differences between the costs of the coal and the cannel, and the value of the residual products.

4877. Then in the $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, which you took as the charge per candle, you began with a calculation, that the actual increased cost, as between the contractor and the company, would be from $2\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* to $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*?—No; that was not at all the mode in which it was done.

4878. Is that what you mean now as the result of the calculation?—Yes.

4879. Then we will begin with the $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, which you have stated as the proper difference per candle; of that, you now tell us that $2\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* or $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* is due to the difference in the cost of manufacture?—Yes.

4880. That leaves 1 *d.* or $1\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* to be accounted for?—Yes.

4881. Will you be so good as to account for that?—Without going into a minute calculation, that is accounted for in the leakage, and in the difference in the cost of materials of manufacture between that date and the present date, because all that was taken at the cost of coals at that date, whereas the cost of coals at which these companies are now supplying gas is quite 25 per cent. greater than it was to Mr. Croll.

4882. That has nothing to do with the question I am asking you; you have told us that to raise gas from 12 candle gas to 18 candle gas, or from 14 candle gas, I think it was to 18 candle gas, the fair allowance is $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per candle?—Yes.

4883. I presume, therefore, that at Nottingham, for instance, if you were now supplying coal at 16 candles, and the people of Nottingham would be content

content with 14 candles, you would be content to take 7 *d.* off the charge?—No; because at Nottingham the cost is not so great; at Nottingham we are now paying 23 *s.* or 24 *s.*, I think, a ton for the cannel, and we are paying, I think, about 11 *s.* a ton for the common coal; whereas the common coal in London is 16 *s.*, and the Wigan cannel, to say nothing of the other cannel, is about 27 *s.*; all that enters into the cost per candle very largely.

4884. But there is a manifest confusion which I want to draw you away from; when you told us that $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* was the proper sum to take as the increased cost per candle if we raised the illuminating power from 14 to 18 candles, you said that besides the actual cost of manufacture there were certain other things which you thought ought to be taken into consideration, did you not?—Yes; but that was an addition to the $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, not as forming a part of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, and I beg to call your attention particularly to that, as it happens to be corroborated by the figures at the bottom of this paper (*handing a Paper to the Chairman*).

4885. All I want is, to come to a clear explanation, that the Committee may distinctly understand what they are to take as your testimony; we have hitherto understood that you have advised us that if we raise the illuminating power in London from 14 candles to 18 candles, we ought to add four times $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to the cost?—Certainly.

4886. Is that the exact sum, or ought we to add more?—That is the exact sum which would keep everything as it is now, provided there was no diminution of consumption; but it does not allow anything for depreciation; it does not allow anything towards a reserve fund, but gives the company exactly $16\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per 1,000 feet for its dividend and interest as they have now; it allows no margin.

4887. It appears that you gave evidence upon an arbitration in a case between a company and a contractor?—Yes.

4888. And when you were asked about your evidence upon that subject, you said that the two cases were not the same, and that the contradiction between your evidence in the two cases need not be any contradiction, because you would have to take a different figure between the company and the consumer, and between the company and the contractor, did you not?—I did, but that was only one part of what I said.

4889. I want you to tell me; is this $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* what you would have said if it had been between a company and a contractor, or is it what you say now as between a company and the consumers?—It is as between the company and the consumer.

4890. There is a difference, therefore, between that and what it would be, if it had been between a company and a contractor?—A very large difference.

4891. And that difference you have measured, as I understand you, by saying that as between the company and a contractor, it would have been $2\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* or $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*?—$2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* if he had been obliged to resort to cannel for the purpose of giving 18 candle gas.

4892. Then may I take it, that it is your evidence given to the Committee that the actual cost as between the company and a contractor, of raising gas in London from 14 candles to 18 candles, is fairly measured by the $2\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* to $2\frac{1}{3}$ *d.* I mean not what you think ought to be allowed, but the actual cost?—No; because that does not include the allowance for leakage.

4893. Exclusive of those other matters of which you have spoken, and which you think ought to be taken into account, it is so?—As nearly as I can calculate in this hurried manner before you; but I have not all the minute data here to go upon.

4894. Did you take all those things into account when you made the calculation of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*?—Most minutely, as you will see in the paper which I have just handed to you.

4895. Then how does it happen that you cannot give us the particulars upon which you based that calculation?—I have given them; but the difficulty is in giving the other particulars of the year 1858, in recalling them to my mind.

4896. We do no care one farthing about 1858?—Then all you asked for you have now before you in that paper. You have all those particulars.

4897. Have the Committee correctly drawn from you that when you made that calculation which led you to tell us that we ought to allow $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, you had in your mind from $2\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* to $2\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* as due to the cost between the com-

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

pany and the contractor; if there were a contractor, and the other 1 *d.* or 1¼ *d.* as due to those other considerations you have spoken of?—No; what I did was this; I calculated the actual expense, without reference either to company or contractor. I had nothing to do with a contractor; the idea of a contractor never presentented itself to my mind; I found what the cost would be to the company.

4898. Get rid of the notion of a contractor; does the 2¼ *d.* or 2½ *d.* represent what the cost would be to the company exclusive of these other considerations?—No, it is insufficient; when I speak in this way I mean it to be understood that I have not had time here to take every little matter into account, but so far as I can suddenly take them into account it appears to me to be about 2¼ *d.* or 2½ *d.*; but then there is the question of leakage besides, and that question enters into it in a most important manner, because the losses upon everything as regards the leakage; if we sell only five-sixths of our gas, instead of selling six-sixths, that influences the dividends, it influences the labour, and it influences everything else, whereas what I have been giving you is the exact answer to what I understood your question to be.

4899. I do not want at the present moment to found any argument upon what you say; I am only labouring to arrive at what you do say; did I understand you tell us that if we were to require the companies to furnish 18 candle gas instead of 14 candle gas, the sum that we ought to allow them per candle is 3½ *d.*?—Precisely.

4900. And did I understand you to say, that before you gave us that opinion you made a calculation?—Most minute.

4901. Did I understand you to say, that in that minute calculation the cost of manufacture was one of the elements?—Certainly.

4902. Did I understand you to say that you could now tell us what the cost of manufacture was?—Certainly.

4903. Then will you be so kind as to tell us what it is?—I will; will you kindly allow me to have that paper which I handed to you just now?—The cost of manufacture, including all the expences of the company, is 19¼ *d.* per 1,000 feet.

4904. Mr. *Peel.*] That is for labour and the expense of manufacture?—It is all except the coal and the fuel.

4905. *Chairman.*] I am now asking you to analyse your 3½ *d.*, and to give me the constituent parts of it; in your answer you gave me 19 *d.* as one of the constituents of 3½ *d.*; how is it possible that I can understand that?—I did not understand the question in that light.

4906. Will you be so good as to analyse the 3½ *d.*, and tell me how much of it was cost of manufacture; such as would have been the case if it had been between Mr. Croll and the company; and how much is due to those other considerations, which you say did not arise in that instance?—I will; but I have not the data before me to enable me to do that; you mean within the walls of the works; I have not the means here of separating the cost within the walls of the works from the cost out of the walls of the works; but I will give it you; I have the means elsewhere.

4907. What I want to know is, whether, when you came here to tell us that 3½ *d.* was the proper figure, you had made such a calculation for yourself?—Most minutely.

4908. Then why cannot you give it us now?—Because I have not it in the form in which you put the question; I have it here in gross, and you will see the actual cost from the papers which are before you; not these papers which I have just been referring to, but others which I will furnish you with.

4909. I wish, instead of looking for other papers, you would analyse this 3½ *d.*?—It is impossible to analyse it here; but I can furnish you with an exact analysis of it, and all the details.

4910. I want to know whether, when you came here to tell us that 3½ *d.* was the proper figure, you had in your own mind any definite idea as to how much of that was what it would cost the company to manufacture it at a higher illuminating power?—The whole of that.

4911. Cannot you now give us how much was due to that, and how much was due to the other considerations?—I cannot, because I cannot separate this 19·25 *d.* on the instant into its several elements, but I can do that for you, and will do it with pleasure.

4912. Will you tell me what you meant when, a short time ago, you told me it

it was 2¼ *d.*?—2¼ *d.* is the difference in the cost of the coals; I was then asked as to a contractor, the 2¼ *d.* is the difference to him in the cost of the coals and the value of the residual products, but there are various other matters to be taken into account which are beyond what I am now speaking of: that is as much as I can give you on the instant from the papers I have before me.

4913. If I cannot get it directly, let me put it hypothetically; you have told me something about 2¼ *d.*, I want to find out what that 2¼ *d.* is?—It is the difference in the cost of the coals and of the residual products.

4914. Then do I understand you that taking a balance of the cost of the coal and of the residual products altogether, the companies would lose from 2¼ *d.* to 2½ *d.* per candle?—No, they would lose 3½ *d.*, but they would lose about that within the walls.

4915. What would they lose without the walls?—They would lose one-sixth of the whole gas, which would affect, of course, other elements of cost besides that; of course I can only give a general answer to the question as you put it, but if you would permit me (I know I am trespassing) to state how the calculations of cost are made, I think you would find that this difficulty would not arise at all.

4916. Then let us hear it?—The way in which the calculation of the actual cost is made, is this: I take the cost of the coals, I take the production of the coals, and I take the illuminating power of the coals. Then, for instance, assuming Mr. Hughes's plan to be adopted, I find that I could get at the works 20 candles from that quantity of coal, and at the cost of the coal stated. I then know as an actual fact, that the reduction of quality before the gas arrives in the district is, upon all qualities of gas, as nearly as possible one-tenth. I therefore take off one-tenth of the 20 candles, which is two, and that gives me 18 candles in the middle of the district. I then find, after allowing one-sixth for waste, which is an ascertained fact, that I can get from this quality of coal 8,684 cubic feet per ton, for sale, after allowing the one-sixth. I then find that the cost of those 19 tons is 22 *l.* 16 *s.* I find that the products resulting from the carbonisation of these 19 tons have a value of 7 *l.* 14 *s.* 9 *d.*; that gives a nett cost of 15 *l.* 1 *s.* 3 *d.*, for the coals. I have got 19 tons for 15 *l.* 1 *s.* 3 *d.* These are actual facts. That gives me as the nett cost of one ton, 15 *s.* 10 *d.* Then I divide that 15 *s.* 10 *d.* by the 8,684 cubic feet sold, and that gives me a cost for coals of that quality of 21·87 pence, that is, 18 candles. I have now got, as you find from actual facts, without troubling myself with mere estimate, that the cost of manufacturing in London is 19¼ *d.*, and I find (Mr. Hughes has admitted it) that the cost of the fuel for carbonising 1,000 feet is 5 *d.*; that gives me 24·25 *d.* to add to the cost of the coal. The cost to the company, therefore, without any profit, is 46·12 *d.* Then the actual amount of the interest on borrowed money, the dividend on preference shares, and the 10 per cent. on the unsecured capital is 16·77 *d.*, assuming always the same quantity of gas to be sold. These are all facts, they do not depend at all upon estimate.

4917. Mr. *Goldney.*] You have arrived at 46·12 *d.* as the cost of 18 candle gas; now can you give me the cost of 14 candle gas; that will give what the Right Honorable Chairman is asking. He wants to know the difference. If you give us the cost of the 14 candle gas we can subtract it?—I think I have that somewhere. There is a paper missing which would have answered it.

4918. *Chairman.*] We will give you till next Tuesday, when we meet again; and by next Tuesday, perhaps, you will be so kind as to furnish us with the analysis of these figures?—Yes, I will.

4919. Informing us what the 2¼ *d.* or 2½ *d.*, of which you have spoken, includes, and what are the other matters that go to raise it up to 3½ *d.*?—I will.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I should like to reserve my cross-examination until then, because I have a few other things to ask.

Chairman.] You had better go on with the other things.

4920. Mr. *O'Malley.*] In the Brighton case you stated, as you have told us already, that 15 candle gas could be produced from 12½ per cent. of cannel?—Yes.

4921. Did you say this as to what it would cost; "What would be the extra cost for cannel gas? The mere extra cost would not amount, I suppose, to more than 1½ *d.* or 2 *d.* per 1,000 feet"?—Do you mean upon the 12½ per cent.?

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

4922. Yes?—That I can give you.

4923. I should be very sorry indeed to ask for any calculation; I only ask you whether you stated the fact?—I have no recollection of it.

4924. I will let you refresh your memory by looking at the shorthand-writer's notes; this is the question about the quantity, and this is the question about the price (*handing a printed copy of the evidence in the Brighton case to the Witness*); do you see it?—I have got the question, but I do not see what it relates to.

4925. You will see just above, the 15 candle gas is what you are speaking of; the 12½ per cent. of cannel, you know, you told us was what was to produce 15 candle gas?—That is no answer at all, unless it bears on something; it must mean either for one candle or something else.

4926. It means for 12½ per cent. of cannel to raise it to 15 candles?—Yes, but from what; I want to see what it is.

4927. Mr. *Goldney.*] Will you read your evidence and see what it refers to?—I want to read it back.

4928. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Surely it does not take so long to find out?—It goes back where I have got to already, for two pages, and I cannot see the beginning of it yet.

4929. Will you hand it me back?—Yes, but I have not yet got to what it refers to.

4930. With regard to 2 *l.* per head capital; you have said that 7 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet pays your interest or your dividend at Nottingham; is not that so?—No.

4931. Have you increased your capital?—We have increased our capital considerably.

4932. Since last year?—Yes, it is about 10 *d.*, I think; between 9 *d.* and 10 *d.*

4933. How much have you increased it since last year?—I really do not know; a large portion of this money which has been borrowed has been recently borrowed.

4934. Did you say last year that 7 *d.* per 1,000 feet would pay your dividend?—I cannot tell you; what we make at Nottingham is about 390,000 feet; it is easily calculated.

4935. You have told the Committee that 2 *l.* per head was paid; you paid 1 *l.* 15 *s.* at Nottingham?—About 1 *l.* 15 *s.*

4936. Is 28 *s.* or 30 *s.* per head capital possible in any place, do you think?—Yes, much less than that, very much less.

4937. The more condensed, I suppose, the delivery is, or the more condensed the area of supply, the less it needs to be?—Yes, that has some effect, but it only affects the question of the mains.

4938. Did you say last year that 28 *s.* a head would be a very good capital for Brighton?—It is for construction; for mere construction, 28 *s.* per head at Brighton, and for the cost of materials at Brighton would do very well.

4939. That would be a good capital for everything?—No, certainly not.

4940. Were you engaged for the Imperial Austrian Gas Company?—Yes.

4941. For lighting the City of Vienna, I think?—No; for lighting 12 or 14 towns in Austria, of which Vienna was not one.

4942. Did you state this: is this your opinion, "Taking their representations to be well founded, would 1 *l.* per head of the population be an unfair amount to pay for the works, all English contractors to do them, and to be paid very largely in paper; he gave his answer that it was not, and he would be prepared to make the same statement again"?—Yes, that is perfectly true.

4943. Did you at that time think 1 *l.* per head paying English contractors, and paying largely in paper, a reasonable sum per head of the population supplied?—If it had been paid in money, 16 *s.* would have been abundant; now will you allow me to explain that, the contract was a specific contract for 2½ cubic feet per head, that is the absolute contract under seal; it is for 2½ cubic feet per head, and, of course, 16 *s.* would have been abundant if they could have

have paid for it in cash, and 20 *s.* if paid for partly in paper; here we supply six times as much per head, more than six times as much.

Mr. *Richards.*] I do not propose to re-examine the Witness now, because he is coming again to answer the questions the Committee have put to him.

Chairman.] I have failed, as far as my lights are concerned, in getting sufficient illuminating power upon this 3½ *d.*, and I want to have it so far explained as that if the Committee are to attach any importance at all to it, we may know what it was founded upon, and what it consists of, and what difference there is between the cost as furnished by a person in Mr. Croll's position under that contract to a company, and as afterwards furnished by the company to the consumer. I wish to have those different elements separated, but I by no means propose to interrupt Mr. Hope Scott's statement by interposing a long examination on general subjects.

Mr. *Richards.*] I understand my learned friend to say that when that statement is put in he proposes to cross-examine upon it.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] No; I will not ask anything; I waive it.

Re-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

4944. I believe this contract with Mr. Croll, which you have been asked about, was a contract for the supply of wax candle gas, not of sperm?—Yes; I believe it was.

4945. Therefore, when you were talking about this 1 *d.* you were talking about wax candles and not sperm candles?—That is so; I may tell the Committee that it is a well known fact that 13 wax candles are equal to 11 sperm candles.

Chairman.] We assume that there was a clear understanding in 1860 as to what sperm candles meant, and what wax candles meant, and that we mean the same things now; we do not care a farthing about Mr. Croll and Mr. Croll's arbitration any further than this; that the witness says that when he speaks of the cost per candle as it would be as between a contractor and a company, and as between a company and the consumer, he draws a broad distinction; we can recognise that, and we only want what he is not able to tell us now, namely, of the 3½ *d.*, how much was due to that, and how much was due to other things.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] My learned friend is wrong in saying that it was wax candles in that case, it was sperm candles of 140 grains; here it is in Mr. Barlow's book.

4946. Mr. *Richards.*] You were examined in the Brighton case, and you say that at that time you said that you made from 18 to 19 candle gas, and delivered about 17 candle gas at Nottingham?—Yes; at Nottingham not at Brighton.

4947. You said that you used one-fifth of cannel?—Yes.

4948. And the other four-fifths was Barnsley coal?—The other was the best Barnsley coal.

4949. That is precisely what I understood you to say now; you make 18, you deliver somewhere about 16, and you use four-fifths of Barnsley coal, the other one-fifth being cannel?—Yes; the whole confusion arises upon the question of the cost of material, the cost being the cost of a different material from that which was contemplated in the other case, and consequently the difficulty I am in now, is in comparing the two circumstances which are utterly different; if they were parallel circumstances, I could compare them easily.

4950. Then I understand that on Tuesday you will be prepared to give that explanation which the Chairman wishes?—Yes.

4951. *Chairman.*]—I suppose you can get access to a copy of the evidence in the Brighton case; I should certainly like to have an explanation of the answer to which Mr. O'Malley has pointed my attention, when we meet again on Tuesday?—I do not know where I can get a copy.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] The Solicitor to the Bill will give you a copy.

Mr. *Hawksley.*

19 June 1867.

Mr. *Richards.*] The usual course is, if a witness is asked a question upon a document, to put the document into his hands.

Mr. *Davison.*] When we came to the question about the burners, it occurred to me that perhaps the Committee might like to see the actual burners in working; it is easily done; I believe it was done last year; the gentlemen who will be called upon the point will explain, as they are passing along, what is going on.

Chairman.] I think we must see our way by degrees. I want to see it accurately as we go along. I do not want to get to anything about the burners and schedules till we have settled the Bill.

Mr. *Davison.*] It would take some time to get the preparations made. If you think you would like to see the burners by about Tuesday, we could prepare them.

Chairman.] I daresay Dr. Percy would show us anything of that kind that we wanted to see.

Mr. *Davison.*] It was put up in the Committee-room last year; I only thought you might like to see it.

Chairman.] If it is a thing to be controverted, probably as there is a distinguished scientific gentleman on these very premises who would, no doubt, be ready to give us any assistance in his power, you had better arrange it between yourselves with him, and then we should see something that you had agreed upon, instead of something about which there would be a controversy.

Mr. *Davison.*] I do not desire to pursue the point, but you will allow me to mention that in this House you are burning cannel gas only, and therefore the experiment would fail.

Chairman.] When the time comes we shall be very ready to deal with the question; I want to get this part of the matter done with first.

4952. *Chairman* (to the *Witness*).] I think you have told us that with regard the purity of gas, there would be a great advantage in reverting to the plan of using lime?—Yes, certainly.

4953. But that the works being near inhabited districts, the sanitarian philosophers, as you call them, would object to it?—They did object, and that was the reason, I believe, that it was departed from.

4954. If, therefore, there was a proposal for a new supply at a considerable distance from the inhabited districts, the sanatarian philosophers would not object, and we might have the advantage of using lime for the purification of gas?—Certainly; but I think that a better mode has been discovered than has yet been spoken of, and that is, to continue the use of oxide of iron for taking out the sulphuretted-hydrogen, and then only using the lime for the purpose of taking out the remaining bi-sulphide. Now that is not an offensive process. By the combination of the two processes, my opinion is that the works can be carried on where they are, but the effect of the double process is to incur a cost of about 1 *d.* per 1,000 feet.

4955. Then the process might be done more simply, and more cheaply, if the new works were established at a distance?—Yes; but then there would be all the other difficulties which I have had the honour of pointing out, which would be far more serious.

4956. But I think you have told us that, as regards the leakage, there would be no considerable increase of loss from that cause?—There would not.

4957. The difficulty would be making mains large enough, or numerous enough, to carry the gas to the places where it was wanted to be?—No doubt; and the increased depreciation in the quality of the light, by reason of the gas travelling so much farther.

4958. But I think I understood you to say in the early part of your evidence that the principal loss was in the first thousand feet, or something of that kind?—That depends upon the size of the main; if the main was very large the thousand yards has to be increased, of course, because the particles do not come to the surface of the pipe so frequently to rub against it. This

This depreciation is occasioned by the condensation of the vapours, which are held in solution by the permanent gases, and these come into contact with the walls of the pipe, and there they are condensed. The larger the pipe, the further the gas has to travel before the same amount of condensation is obtained; but in ordinary cases, for instance, in the case of Nottingham, where we know the facts, because the gas is tested every day at all the stations, and in the centre of the town, we know that in less than three-quarters of a mile we lose as nearly as may be two candles, 1¾ candles; and the further the gas travels, although in a constantly decreasing ratio, and a rapidly decreasing ratio, of course the lower becomes the illuminating power, till at last all the vapours are, so to speak, rubbed out of the gas, and there is nothing but the permanent gases left. You might carry gas so far that it would ultimately burn blue, but that would be a great distance.

4959. You do not think it would burn blue, I suppose, at such a distance as I suggested to you; a place upon the Thames, for instance, in Galleon Reach?—It would not, so far as regards the eastern end of the town, but the deterioration at the west end of the town, which is some 15 miles, I should think, away would be very serious indeed.

4960. Mr. *Goldney.*] The Western Gas Company supply gas at this end (*pointing to the map*)?—Yes, the Western Gas Company now supply gas at the extreme west end of the town; they supply cannel gas, and I have no hesitation in saying that if that rich gas were to be sent from that neighbourhood it would lose four or five, or perhaps more, candles before it reached that extreme point.

4961. *Chairman.*] I forget whether you have given us in detail the calculations of the cost at your works at Nottingham?—I have not.

4962. What is the cost of your coal per 1,000 feet?—The coal itself is as nearly as possible 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, not quite 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

4963. After deducting anything for the residual products?—No, that is the cost of the coal itself; then we have a deduction to make for the residual products; they amounted last year to a little over 12,000 *l.*, and that has to be divided by 336,000 cubic feet.

4964. Mr. *Goldney.*] You said that the cost of the coal was 38 *s.*, and the nett product of gas was 8,604 feet?—Yes, if you want the quantity of gas actually sold at the consumers' meter; that I am now furnishing you with; we sold at the consumers' meter 336,000 feet of gas, and we got back for our residual products about 8¾ *d.*, or a little under that; the cost of the coal is as nearly as possible 22,000 *l.*

4965. *Chairman.*] We will not prolong it, but when you bring the other paper will you just bring this with you (*handing a memorandum to the Witness*)?—I will; I can give you this accurately.

[The Witness withdrew.

Chairman.] We are going to hear Mr. Hope Scott when we meet again. We have heard a great deal incidentally in the course of this inquiry about what the Companies consider to be their rights under the legislation of 1860. We shall probably ask Mr. Hope Scott to state to us very distinctly in the course of his address what is the construction put by the Companies upon the effect of that statute in regard to their legal and equitable rights.

Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 25*th June* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

25 June 1867.

Mr. *Hawkesley* handed in the following paper: "Cost of gas, at the consumer's meter, of various illuminating powers, on the basis of 9,600 cubic feet of 12 candle gas being generated from one ton of Newcastle coal, and 9,600 cubic feet of 24 candle gas being generated from one ton of Wigan cannel. The depreciation in transmission to the testing-house being one-tenth of the normal illuminating power; and 8,000 cubic feet of the mixed gases being sold for every ton of coals carbonised;" and also "Synopsis of the operations of the Nottingham Gas Company."

Vide Appendix.

Mr. *Hope Scott* was heard to address the Committee in opposition to the Bill.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 26*th June* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

26 June 1867.

Mr. *Hope Scott* was heard to continue his address in opposition to the Bill. In the course of his address Mr. Hope Scott put in the following paper: "Comparative statement of the net cost of a ton of coals to the thirteen Metropolitan Gas Companies, for the year 1866."

Vide Appendix.

Mr. *Michael* was heard to address the Committee on behalf of the Western Company.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 2nd July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *O'Malley* was heard to address the Committee in reply on behalf of the promoters of the Bill. 2 July 1867.

[Adjourned to To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, 3rd July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *O'Malley* was heard to continue his address on behalf of the consumers. 3 July 1867.

Mr. *Davison* was heard to address the Committee on behalf of the Board of Trade.

In the course of his address, in reply to a question from the Committee,

Mr. *Davison* stated, that if the Committee inserted in the Bill an illuminating power and a price, the Board of Trade would assume that it was such a price, and such an illuminating power, as would, in the judgment of the Committee, enable the companies to earn a maximum dividend of 10 per cent.

[*The Committee Room was cleared. After some time the Counsel and parties were again called in.*]

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee had unanimously adopted the following Resolutions:—

Firstly. That the supply of gas in London ought to be controlled in favour of the consumer, either by the means of an effective competition, or, if the system of an exclusive supply be maintained, by the means of effective regulation.

Secondly. That neither of these conditions is adequately fulfilled by the system of exclusive supply now in operation, under the arrangement sanctioned by the Act of 1860.

Thirdly. That no Bills for the establishment of a competing supply having been referred to the Committee, the question of providing for the establishment of control by the means of competition does not immediately arise.

3 July 1867.

Fourthly. That the Committee regard the establishment of a due control, by an amendment of the Act of 1860, upon the system of exclusive supply, as preferable to the future introduction of competing works; and are prepared to settle the present Bill accordingly, if that course be consented to by the parties.

Fifthly. That the extensive powers asked for, by the Chartered Company and by the Imperial Company respectively, in the Bills now before the Committee, are calculated to throw obstacles in the way of future competition, and that the Committee are not prepared to entertain them until the general system of supply shall have been first placed upon a more satisfactory basis.

Sixthly. That the settlement must provide for the improved administration of the system by reduced expenditure; and the Committee think, that by the amalgamation of some of the companies, and improved arrangements of the districts, that object may be easily attained.

Mr. *Davison* stated that the promoters desired to have a full opportunity of considering the Resolutions.

Mr. *Hope Scott* stated that he was quite unable, at the present moment, to express any view, on the part of the various companies which he represented, more especially because, upon the question of amalgamation, expressions were used in the Resolutions of the Committee which might press upon some of the companies and not upon others, and which would therefore render it difficult for the companies to come to any united action; and he stated that if the Committee would give any further information on the question what amalgamation of the companies, and what improved arrangements of districts, they had in view, that would very much facilitate the action of the companies.

The *Chairman* stated that it was not the intention of the Committee to proceed, by direct and compulsory legislation, to touch prices already sanctioned by Parliament in a hostile manner. He also stated that the Committee were of opinion that the present working expenditure might and should be reduced; but that it was for the companies, in the first place, to consider amongst themselves what would be the most convenient mode of attaining that object; and he intimated that, if the Committee received no assistance from the parties, they would not pass any one of the Bills before them, but would report their opinion upon the general subject to Parliament.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 9th July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

9 July 1867.

Mr. *Davison* read to the Committee letters (in answer to a letter from Mr. Wyatt) from Mr. Baxter, Mr. Wyke Smith, and Mr. Corrie, and stated that he believed the principle of amalgamation might be taken as accepted by his clients, and that he was pretty much in the hands of the Committee with regard to the auditors of accounts, the Chemical Board, and other matters of detail in the Bill.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that his clients were willing to leave the whole of the matter to the decision of the Committee.

Mr. *Grove* stated that the Metropolitan Board of Works had at present no proposal before them on which they could come to a decision.

Mr. *Hope Scott*, on behalf of the companies, stated that the Committee of Chairmen had passed the following Resolutions:—

"The Committee of Chairmen of The Metropolitan Gas Companies having taken into consideration the Resolutions of the Select Committee of the 3rd instant, and the views of the Committee as expressed in explanation, Resolved, that the companies are prepared to repeat their proposition of 14 candles and 4 *s.* price for common gas. But as they have now a twelve months' experience of the effects of this price, and find they can scarcely maintain under it the Parliamentary dividend, they feel it impossible to adopt any lower rate until the progress of consumption shall enable them to do so consistently with the maintenance of the statutory dividend. That in order to meet the views of the Committee, and evince their readiness to adopt every practicable plan to reduce to their minimum the working expenses, the Committee are prepared to effect amalgamations amongst their various companies, and suggest a re-arrangement of the districts of supply, so as to make generally available every source possessed by individual companies, and avoid to the utmost practicable extent the outlay of capital required for increased supply. That the public may be secured in the benefit of any reduction of working expenses thus arising under the provisions of the Gas Works Clauses Act, 1847, the companies are prepared to recognise the appointment of a public auditor, in the place of the accountants by that Act proposed to be occasionally appointed; so that the extent to which reduction may proceed, consistently with the maintenance of the dividend and the fairness and accuracy of the companies accounts, may be placed beyond dispute."

Mr. *Davison* stated that, with regard to the price and the illuminating power, the Board of Trade did not interfere in the smallest degree, but left themselves in the hands of the Committee; and that they were willing to assist in amending the machinery of the Acts of 1847 and 1860 as far as possible.

Mr. *O'Malley*, on the part of the City, stated that it was the desire of his clients that the Committee should deal in a judicial way with every part of the Bill, unshackled by any concessions whatever, and that if that could not be done, it was their wish that the Committee should decline to proceed further with any of the Bills before them, leaving his clients at liberty to come before Parliament next Session with a competing scheme, as they pledged themselves to do.

9 July 1867.

Mr. *Grove*, on behalf of the Metropolitan Board of Works, stated that the propositions of the Gas Companies, as stated by Mr. Hope Scott, were such as his clients could not consent to, and that it would be out of the question that the Metropolitan Board of Works should pay (under the last clause of the Bill) the expenses of an Act which they did not approve of.

After a little more discussion,

[*The Committee-room was cleared. After some time the Counsel and parties were called in.*]

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee had unanimously adopted the following Resolutions:—

First. That the Committee are not satisfied with the offer made on the part of the companies to supply gas to the metropolis at the price of 4*s.*, with an illuminating power of 14 candles.

Secondly. That they are prepared, with the consent of the parties, to insert in the present Bill a price which, after making adequate allowance for reduced expenditure, shall be calculated to yield, with due care and management, a dividend attaining, or at least approaching, the maximum dividend of the Act of 1847, upon the amount of the share capital already expended under the authority of Parliament. In this case they will insert also in the Bill, machinery for the periodical revision of the price in conformity with this principle.

Thirdly. Failing the acceptance of these proposals, the Committee will report to the House their opinion that powers for the supply of gas ought to be conceded to the local authorities of the metropolis.

Mr. *Hope Scott* applied to the Committee for some further statement of their views with respect to the price and illuminating power.

Mr. *O'Malley* was heard in opposition.

After a little further discussion,

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Thursday, 11*th July* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

11 July 1867.

Mr. *Davison* stated that he was still unable to place before the Committee any illuminating power and price to which all parties agree.

Mr. *Hope Scott* stated that he had nothing to add to the views expressed in the Resolutions of the companies' chairmen, which he had laid before the Committee.

Mr. *Grove* also stated that he had nothing to add to what he had previously said.

Mr. *O'Malley* made the same statement, again placing himself entirely in the hands of the Committee.

Chairman.] We consider that the Act of 1860, and the arrangement sanctioned by that Act, have been eminently favourable to the companies, and have not been such as adequately to protect the consumers. We consider that, in the position in which the Committee is placed, we cannot interfere with that settlement directly without the consent of the parties. We are, on the other hand, quite clear that we ought not by any act of ours to give any new validity or sanction to that arrangement without an amendment of it in the interest of the consumers. If, therefore, the companies do not make any proposal satisfactory to us, we shall report in the sense which I have already stated. We shall further report, that in that state of things we see no remedy for the consumers but the introduction of an independent supply. We see that there would be great difficulties in the introduction of an independent supply by new and rival companies, and we shall express our opinion that that independent supply must be furnished by the local authorities of the metropolis.

The *Chairman* having pressed upon Mr. Davison the propriety of the Board of Trade, as promoters of the Bill, taking an active part in bringing the question of price and illuminating power into distinct form before the Committee, after consultation with the companies,

Mr. *Davison* stated, that whatever price and illuminating power the Committee put into the Bill, the Board of Trade would feel bound to proceed with it.

Mr. *Hope Scott* having called the attention of the Committee to Mr. Davison's statement the other day on that subject,

Mr. *Davison* added, that his present statement was to be taken in connection with the previous statement, and read in the light of it. Mr. Davison further stated that there was no compact between the Board of Trade and the companies, except what might be gathered from the correspondence.

11 July 1867.

The *Chairman* having again urged upon Mr. Davison the opinion of the Committee, that the Board of Trade by leaving the price and illuminating power in blank, under the circumstances in which the Board of Trade and the companies appeared before the Committee, had placed the latter in a position of undue difficulty,

Mr. *Davison* stated that he would again do his best with the companies, and place the result before the Committee to-morrow morning.

[Adjourned to To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Friday, 12th July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

---

12 July 1867.

Mr. *Burke* applied for an adjournment of the case until Tuesday next, on the ground that, from the conversation he had had with Mr. Davison, as representing the Government, he had reason to hope that further consultation might result in something more nearly approaching an arrangement than had yet been arrived at.

Mr. *Davison* having confirmed the statement of Mr. Burke,

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 16th July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Davison* read to the Committee the following letters, as helping to explain the present position of the parties before the Committee:— 16 July 1867.

" Dear Sir, " Metropolis Gas, 12 July 1867.

" I UNDERSTOOD you this morning to say the proposition which, on the part of the Board of Trade, you were authorised to make, was as follows:—To continue the present price of 4 *s.* to the 1st of January 1869; to raise the illumination to 16 candles; from the 1st January 1869, the price to be lowered to 3 *s.* 9 *d.* If at the end of two years it was found the companies could not earn their statutory dividend of 10 per cent., including penalties, which are charged to dividend, but of course excluding anything taken from the reserved funds, that then arbitrators should be appointed to raise the price or lower the illumination, so as to enable the companies to earn their statutory dividend of 10 per cent. and pay up arrears, but that the maximum power and price to be fixed by such arbitration should not be less in favour of the public than the maximum fixed by the Act of 1860. That it should be in the power of the Board of Trade, on the one hand, and the companies, on the other, at intervals of two years, to require renewed arbitration, either to lower the price or to raise it, as might be requisite, on the one hand to give to the public the benefits of all profits beyond 10 per cent., and on the other to secure to the companies their rate of dividend. Your view of the arbitration was, one arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, one by the consumers, and one by the companies; the majority to bind. That the companies should amalgamate as far as practicable. Upon the point of illuminating power and price, I shall have to consult the Committee of Chairmen of the Gas Companies; but intermediately I wish to point out to you that the object of continuing the present price for a limited period being to enable the companies to realise the reduction of expense which might result from amalgamation, it will be obvious to you, on reflection, that an interval of one year will not enable them to consolidate their districts and so modify the course of supply as to bring these benefits into play, but the shortest period to be named for such purpose would be two years, which would bring us to the 1st of January 1870, before the advantages of amalgamation will enable them to reduce the price. On this point you would, perhaps, confer with the Board of Trade; but before I see you, I wish to bring to your mind that the total profits divided by the companies are only 600,000 *l.*, and this represents 1 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet upon the gas sold. A reduction of 3 *d.* in the price cuts off 100,000 *l.* from the profits. The raising of the illuminating power acts in the same way by increasing the expenses, and therefore to the same extent diminishing the profits. You are aware from the accounts proved by the companies, that 4 *s.* for less than 14 candles furnished now does not fully pay 10 per cent. dividend. Your proposition, taken as you give it, would reduce the price by 3 *d.*, striking off 100,000 *l.*; by raising two

16 July 1867.

candles, which would cost 5 *d.* per 1,000 feet additional, would strike off 166,000 *l.*; making a total reduction of 266,000 *l.*, to be made up out of gradual increase of profits. You will see at once that this would be cutting away nearly one-half the dividend of the companies until by gradual increase of quantity and reduction of expense the amount could be made up, and you will feel, I think, it is more than you could reasonably ask, and more than the companies could concede, whatever may be their disposition to run some risk for the purpose of meeting the views of the Board of Trade. Another consideration presents itself, which you will perhaps submit to the Board of Trade. If the price is made so low that there is a considerable deficiency in dividend, then when the arbitration arose the price would be raised so much higher, in order to restore the dividend and pay up the arrears, as would create very great general dissatisfaction. You will, therefore, see it is desirable on the part of the public, that the price should not be so reduced as to render it necessary to make a violent change at the end of the two years' trial. If you will be good enough to think over these topics, I will, after seeing the Committee of Chairmen, call on you on Monday, about one o'clock.

"Very truly yours,

"R. H. Wyatt, Esq., 28, Parliament Street. "*Robert Baxter.*

"P.S.—The arbitration would scarcely work as you put it, unless it were provided that, if a majority could decide, the companies' arbitrator should be one of such majority.

"The more usual course would suggest one arbitrator by the Board of Trade, another by the company, with power to appoint an umpire, in case of disagreement."

"28, Parliament Street, 15 July 1867.

"Metropolis Gas.

"Dear Sir,

"I SHALL have no opportunity of consulting with the Board of Trade on your letter before the hour you name for our meeting to-day, but for your guidance, in consultation with your clients this morning, I may mention that it was not without a careful review of the whole question, and much deliberation, that the Board of Trade (in deference to the wishes of the Select Committee of the House of Commons) determined to advise the adoption of the terms of settlement which I conveyed to you on Friday last. I doubt, therefore, if the Board will reconsider their decision, and particularly as the proposed arbitration will prevent the possibility of any injustice being done either to the companies or to the consumers; for, on the one hand, should it turn out on inquiry that the companies have made every possible effort to keep down the expenses of production and management, and have nevertheless been unable to earn their maximum dividend, permission will be given to increase the price to make good any deficiency; whilst, on the other hand, if it should turn out that the companies had been charging too much, the price will be lowered, and the companies must give credit for any excess they may have received. With such conflicting testimony as to the cost of producing gas, and with such varying results, not only in other towns, but also in the metropolis, my humble opinion is, that the only fair way of dealing with the difficulty is by letting competent arbitrators provide for a variation of circumstances as it arises. With reference to your observations on the proposed arbitration, I should explain that it is intended that the companies should name one arbitrator, and the consumers another, and that the Board of Trade should name a disinterested person, who will, in fact, be the umpire. There are two points upon which, I fear, I did not make myself clear, as you are in error upon those points. First—Illuminating power; it is not to be lowered so as to be at any time less than 16 candles. Secondly—Increase in price; this is not to exceed the maximum prescribed by the Act of 1860, namely, 4 *s.* 6 *d.* for common gas. With respect to the proposed time of grace, you must not forget that the Committee have declared that the Act of 1860 has proved very one-sided, and that the companies have therefore been reaping undue advantages for seven years, whilst the public have been losers for the same period. It is questionable,

tionable, therefore, whether the public ought not at once to have the advantages proposed by the Committee. If, however, they decide to adopt the suggestions of the Board of Trade to give the companies until the 1st January 1869, that will really give them 18 months to put their house in order if they set to work at once. Amalgamation and efficient audit will be insisted on. Of course the 10 per cent. dividend will not apply to future capital, or to capital limited by the statute to a lower dividend. The other parts of the Bill there will be a difficulty in settling.

" Yours truly,

" Robert Baxter, Esq." " *R. H. Wyatt.*"

The learned Counsel went on to say that there had been further communications between the parties; and that whereas the proposal had been that the present price should remain until the 1st of January 1869, and that the illuminating power should go up to 16 candles, but that on the 1st of January 1869, the price should begin to be 3 *s.* 9 *d.*, while the illuminating power should remain at 16 candles, with a system of arbitration applicable to price and illuminating power with reference to dividend, the Board of Trade were now prepared to make this further concession, namely, that the 16 candle gas should not be required until the 1st of January 1869, while in the interval between that time and the present the companies were to be amalgamated; the price on the 1st of January 1869, to be 3 *s.* 9 *d.*, with an illuminating power of 16 candles, and the same powers of arbitration as were pointed out in the correspondence.

Mr. *Hope Scott* was heard to address the Committee, urging that the letters which had been read were merely letters exchanged between the parties with a view to an arrangement, but that it would be idle for his clients to come into an arrangement which, to be of any value to them, must be final, unless they were made aware that the Committee were prepared to sanction any arrangement that the promoters of the Bill might make, or whether they would insist on revising it, in which case his clients were not prepared to make any arrangement with the Board of Trade.

Mr. *Webster* stated that his clients were thoroughly willing to leave the whole matter judicially to the decision of the Committee. But the learned Counsel concluded by saying that he was just instructed by the Chairman of the Gas Committee that the terms now proposed were such as the City Gas Company could not agree to under any circumstances.

Mr. *Grove*, on behalf of the Metropolitan Board of Works, stated that his clients dissented entirely from the terms proposed, and that they did not desire to leave the matter in the hands of the Committee any further than they were compelled to do; in other words, that they did not appear as consenting parties in any way. The learned Counsel went on to state that he had heard a correction of the experimental term of two years into one year, which would imply that the whole question would be re-opened *de novo* at the end of a year, which he thought could not possibly be satisfactory either to any one representing the consumers or to the Committee.

Mr. *Davison* was heard to address the Committee, commenting on the speeches of Mr. Grove and Mr. Webster, and adding, with respect to the companies, that he believed there would be no objection to make the experimental term one year instead of two years, and that what was intended in the proposal by the continuance of the present state of things up to the year 1869, was 14 candle gas at the price of 4 *s.*

The Committee retired to deliberate.

On the return of the Committee—

Chairman.] The Committee adhere to the Resolutions communicated to the parties on the 9th of July. They are prepared to accept, as an initial price and power, the proposals made by the Board of Trade, namely, 3 *s.* 9 *d.* for 16 candle gas, from the 1st of January 1869. They will require that the provisions for periodical arbitration shall be so framed as to secure that such price only shall from time to time be required of the consumers as will be necessary to fulfil the conditions of the Second Resolution.

16 July 1867.

Mr. *Hope Scott* having asked the Chairman to explain the bearing of the reference now made by the Committee to the second of the Resolutions of the 9th of July,

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee intended the price to be from time to time so calculated as to yield the maximum dividend if the companies exercised due care and management, but not to guarantee that dividend irrespectively of such care and management; the question whether such due care and management had been exercised, to be left to the decision of the arbitration appointed.

Mr. Hope Scott and his clients retired to deliberate.

On their return into the room—

Mr. *Hope Scott* began to read the letter of Mr. Baxter, making corrections in it so as to express the form which he believed the proposals to take at this moment.

Mr. *Davison* submitted that Mr. Hope Scott was about to deal in a very inconvenient way with the Resolution of the Committee which had been put to companies to accept or reject; the learned Counsel inquiring if Mr. Hope Scott accepted 3 *s.* 9 *d.* and 16 candle gas on the 1st of January 1869 as a basis.

Mr. *Hope Scott* stated that until he knew the whole length and breadth of the proposals before the Committee, he committed his companies to nothing.

Mr. *Davison* stated that he adhered to the letter of the 15th of July, as far as it was consistent with the Resolution of the Committee.

In the course of the discussion,

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee were unanimously of opinion that the phrase "statutory dividend" was not a proper one to use, inasmuch as it might be taken to imply a dividend guaranteed irrespectively of due care and management.

Mr. *Hope Scott* wishing to have it understood that the 16 candle gas was to be an average,

Mr. *Davison* submitted that the correspondence showed clearly that the 16 candle gas was to be in place of the 14 candles or 12 candles.

Mr. *Burke* was heard to address the Committee briefly on the subject of the difficulty of maintaining an absolute standard of illuminating power day by day.

The *Chairman* suggested that a saving clause inserted in the Bill might meet the difficulty.

Mr. *Webster.*] Having called the attention of the Committee to the Third Resolution of the 9th of July, and having stated that the City certainly could not assent to the proposals of the Board of Trade, and would wish the Committee to report in terms of that Resolution,

The *Chairman* stated that if the Bill was settled so as to receive the approval of the Committee, they would certainly report it to the House.

Mr. *Grove* called the attention of the Committee to the terms of the Second Resolution, and to the fact that the expenses of the Bill were to be borne by the Metropolitan Board of Works. The learned Counsel stated that if the Committee thought they could recommend the Bill to Parliament, in the absence of any opposition, his clients would retire.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Thursday, 18*th July* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

18 July 1867.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated (with a view to prevent any possible misunderstanding with regard to the position of his clients) that he took up precisely the same ground as was taken by the learned Counsel who represented the Metropolitan Board of Works, protesting against being bound by any decision which appeared to be in the nature of a compromise between the Board of Trade and the Gas Companies; in fact, against any arrangement in which his clients had no voice.

The *Chairman* reminded Mr. O'Malley that his clients had brought forward no competing Bill, and stated that he as well as other parties would be fully heard. The Chairman went on to say that it must be understood by all parties that the Committee considered themselves bound exactly by what they had said in their Resolutions, and no further; and that they would be guided by their own judgment in determining, after hearing all parties who wished to be heard, how the Bill (if it was to go forward) was to be settled.

At the close of the sitting of the Committee, Mr. Davison not being present,

Chairman.] In dealing with the Bill which I understand will be brought before us to-morrow (the general Bill), everything will, in our opinion, depend on the efficiency of the machinery by which provision is made for securing that the consumer shall receive, from time to time, the full benefit intended for him.

[Adjourned to To-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

Friday, 19*th July* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

19 July 1867.

Mr. *Davison* read to the Committee the following Heads of Arrangement:—

"Heads of Arrangement with the Board of Trade. Amended 18th July 1867.

1. "Present prices to be charged by each of the companies until 1st January 1869, subject to the opinion of the Committee as to the continuance of an additional 3 *d.* in outlying districts.

2. "The illuminating power from 1st October 1867 till 1st January 1869, to be not less than 14 candles.

3. "After 1st January 1869, price to be 3 *s.* 9 *d.*, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained.

4. "The illuminating power after the 1st January 1869, to be 16 candles.

5. "From 1st January 1870, and so on from year to year, on request, either by the local authority or by the companies, an arbitrator to re-settle the price and illuminating power (to be in no case less favourable to the public than under the Act of 1860) on such a footing as will, on the one hand, secure to the public the lowest price and highest illuminating power, consistent with the payment of the dividends prescribed by the Act of 1847, or any special Acts of the several companies, and will, on the other hand, enable the companies, with due care and management, to make up such dividends, including penalties charged to dividends, but excluding any sums taken from reserve funds.

6. "If, on any three successive days at any time, or on any 20 or more days in any period of 60 successive days, the gas supplied by a company from any station is of less illuminating power, or of less purity than it ought to be under this Act, the company shall in each case forfeit a sum of 50 *l.* to the Crown, and the same, if not paid, shall be deemed a debt due from the company to the Crown, and shall be recoverable accordingly with costs; and such forfeiture shall be borne and paid (to the satisfaction of the auditor appointed as in this Act provided) exclusively by and out of the profits of the company, applicable to the purposes of dividend, and by way of reduction of dividend: provided that such forfeiture shall not be incurred in any case in relation to which it is certified by the chief gas examiner, that the defect of illuminating power or excess of impurity was occasioned by an unavoidable cause or accident.

7. "The

7. "The arbitrator shall be appointed by the Board of Trade, and his decision shall be given after hearing the companies and the local authorities.

8. "Forthwith, after the passing of this Act, the companies shall take proceedings to effect an amalgamation, with a view to there being not more than four companies, and shall report the result to the Board of Trade, who may hear any objections and suggest amendments; and if the companies do not adopt such suggestions, the same shall be heard before and determined by the Queen in Council; and the amalgamation so settled shall be final and binding, as if enacted by Parliament. If no amalgamation, &c. be reported within six months, the Board of Trade to appoint three commissioners to effect amalgamation on the like principle as to number of companies, with full powers to examine books and officers and other necessary and proper powers, and the scheme of the commissioners to be final and binding, as if enacted by Parliament. Amalgamation shall comprise proper compensation to holders of abolished offices."

The learned Counsel added, that he was now prepared to go on with the clauses of the Bill.

After a few words from Mr. *Hope Scott*, submitting that the clauses were not yet in the shape in which they could be finally dealt with,

The Committee adjourned for a short time.

On the re-assembling of the Committee,

Mr. *Davison* stated that his clients and the Gas Companies had consulted together, and had come to an arrangement upon all the points with the exception of four, upon which the parties desired to have the decision of the Committee, namely:—

1stly. As to an additional 3 *d.* for outlying districts.

2ndly. As to whether there should be a special price and a special illuminating power fixed for cannel gas.

3rdly. As to the number into which the companies should be combined for the purposes of amalgamation, the proposal being four; and,

4thly. As to the continuance of the reserve fund, in conjunction with the power of arbitration as to price and dividends. If the Committee would express their views upon those points, the Board of Trade would prepare clauses in accordance with their decision.

Mr. *Denison* stated that his clients did not object to the proposed amalgamation with four companies, and was heard upon the other points, objecting to the abolition of the reserve fund, but stating that his clients were willing to agree to its reduction to five per cent.

Mr. *Michael* stated on the part of the South Metropolitan, that they were willing to remain at 3 *s.* 4 *d.* on the whole of their district, and that, with regard to the Western Company supplying cannel gas, he proposed that they should remain *in statu quo* till 1869, receiving 5 *s.* 6 *d.*, and that they should be entitled to reckon every candle of increased illuminating power as adding 1 *s.* 4 *d.* to the value of the gas, and to the price which the company should be entitled to receive.

Mr. *O'Malley*, on the part of the Corporation of London, was heard against the proposals.

Mr. *Grove*, on the part of the Metropolitan Board of Works, was also heard against the proposals.

The Committee retired to deliberate.

19 July 1867.

On their return,

Chairman.] The Committee adopt the principle of arbitration proposed by the Board of Trade.

We are unanimously of opinion, that an initial price of 3 *s.* 9 *d.* per 16 candles with a machinery for securing to the consumer the full benefit of the reduced expenditure, resulting as well from the amalgamation of the companies as from the future supervision of expenditure, is an arrangement which in the interest of the consumer we ought to sanction.

The details of the arbitration clauses will be settled so as to give effect to the intention expressed in the second of the Resolutions communicated to the parties on July the 9th.

The preamble of the Bill was postponed.

The clauses of the Bill were read, and various amendments suggested. On manuscript clause, Rider A., with respect to the submission to Her Majesty in Council of the modifications proposed by the Board of Trade in the event of the companies not assenting to them, Mr. Denison stated that he would put a few questions to Mr. Baxter.

Robert Baxter, Esq., Examined by Mr. *Denison.*

R. Baxter, Esq.

4966-7. As you have been present at those negotiations, and I have not, I will ask you why it is agreed, as far as you are concerned, between you and the Board of Trade, that those words in the third line of Clause 3 should be omitted, and the Privy Council machinery substituted?—For the purpose of giving to the companies an opportunity of voluntary amalgamation. As the clauses originally stood, having some knowledge of public affairs and the public offices, what I see would be the result would be this, that the companies would propose their scheme; it would be sent to the Metropolitan Board of Works and to the City, and they would violently object and make so much disturbance that the Board of Trade, for the mere purpose of getting rid of the thing altogether, would leave it in the hands of the Commissioners, and then we should have three Commissioners sitting for some months in order to take the thing into their own hands, and really form an amalgamation, perhaps contrary to the will of the companies. Then the plan upon which we have agreed with the Board of Trade comes to this: We shall have an opportunity of proposing amalgamations, as we, from our experience of how the pipes lie, and where the foci are for manufacturing gas, know that it could be applied with most economy to the district around. We having that knowledge shall arrange the amalgamation so as to secure the utmost possible economy, and we have knowledge which they cannot possibly have. Then, if we send our scheme in to the Board of Trade, and the Metropolitan Board of Works and the City are required to propose their modifications of it, and if the Board of Trade should think their modifications worthy of being received, they will recommend us to adopt them, and if we do not adopt them, then it will go before the Privy Council, and they will determine whether the modifications ought to be adopted or not. But I foresee distinctly that if it stands as the clauses are drawn, we shall have the three Commissioners whether or no, because a very small amount of disturbance got up with the Board of Works will induce the Board of Trade to say that they will get rid of this trouble, and throw it into the hands of the Commissioners.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] I cannot say that that is anything but a confirmation of what we have already urged against the clause.

4968. Mr. *Denison.*] If that is so, it seems to me that that clause of the Bill would become inoperative altogether, would it not, because you say that you apprehend that the Metropolitan Board would make objections, and that the Board of Trade would throw the whole thing over, instead of attempting any modifications?—Exactly so; the scheme, in fact, would be overthrown by a mere objection to it, and might be remitted to the Commissioners; the Board of Trade would say, here is a quarrel raised before us; we have not the machinery, or the parties, or the men to decide this; we must merely go upon the machinery provided by the Act, and set the Commissioners to work.

4969. So

4969. So that you would lose all power either without or with the assistance of the Board of Trade of having any say in the amalgamations?—As the clause at first stood we should.

4970. *Chairman.*] Why not make this appointment of Commissioners a mere matter of machinery, and let the decision be with the Committee of the Privy Council for Trade and Plantations?—The Committee of the Privy Council, with all respect to them, have no opinion, and they have no means of forming an opinion, unless they were to sit and hear the case, as you and the honourable Members of this Committee are pleased to do; they can only remit it to the parties, and leave it in the hands of those parties entirely to deal with it. Then the fact would be, that we should be sent to the Commissioners; they would plan out an amalgamation, and we should be the parties objecting to the amalgamation of the Commissioners, instead of the other persons being the parties objecting to the amalgamation, which we think is putting us in a false position. We do know that we are perfectly competent to deal with the question. As you have very properly put it, we will reduce the expenses, but no one can tell as we can tell how we can reduce the expenses by laying out the district in a particular form, because we know where the pipes are.

4971. It is quite agreed on all hands than an amalgamation in which you yourselves co-operated, and did the best to make it the cheapest thing for the public, would be the best of all amalgamations; but I do not at all see my way to settling this second clause, and I do not believe we ever shall settle it so as to have the Queen in Council brought into play for this purpose. I think you must find somebody else; if so, why should not it be left that if within six months you have not prepared and agreed upon a scheme that the Board of Trade can approve, they should be entitled to appoint Commissioners to go on, with your co-operation, and settle something that can be approved?

Mr. *Denison.*] You will probably qualify a little what you said just now, Sir, because the Board of Trade might be very nearly agreeing within six months, and then you would cut them short, and not let them go on; you do not mean that, of course.

Chairman.] No, but you must have some limit fixed, or else it would never be done.

Mr. *Denison.*] Six months is given to begin, so to speak, because we shall be soon in the long vacation, and that really leaves only three months to work.

Witness.] The companies are quite indifferent what tribunals shall ultimately decide, so that they have a fair opportunity given them for voluntary amalgamation; but, as those clauses are framed, supposing the Board of Trade say, we do not approve of your scheme, out come the three Commissioners, booted and spurred, to take the matter up and amend and reform, or form, originally, an amalgamation.

Chairman.] But surely if the time allowed is sufficient for reasonable purposes, it may be so framed that you shall have that time to submit the amalgamation to the Board of Trade, and if you and they cannot within that time settle an amalgamation, then this other provision shall apply.

Mr. *Denison.*] Probably you will make two periods, and say if we do not begin within six months, and then if they do not agree within some other reasonable time, very likely you will allow six months more.

Witness.] The Committe will see at once the difficulty; there is no question about it. We can propose a scheme (and we know how to amalgamate ourselves) within six months, and we shall send it in to the Board of Trade; but when that goes in, and the parties on the other side bring in their objections, if they make any public disturbance about it, the Board of Trade will say, we cannot be at the trouble of hearing you *pro* and *con.* upon this matter; we must remit it to somebody else to deal with. If the remission were of our scheme, and of the objections to our scheme, and they were to say that many modifications proposed by them were to be adopted, I do not much care about the tribunal; but that is not the form in which these clauses go; it is simply if the Board of

R. Baxter, Esq.

19 July 1867.

Trade do not approve, the Commissioners are sent forth, and then the Commissioners start anew, with a new plan of their own.

4972. *Chairman.*] Will you consent to this, that it shall be obligatory upon you, within six months, to have proposed a scheme?—Certainly.

4973. Then that time shall be given to the local authorities of the metropolis to object either to the whole scheme or anything in it?—Certainly.

4974. Then that the Board of Trade shall appoint those Commissioners to make inquiries and advise them, and that you, and that then they, shall settle the scheme?—Upon our scheme.

Mr. *O'Malley.*] Not upon your scheme.

Chairman.] You do not mean, supposing your scheme was what the learned Counsel said it might possibly be, utterly illusory and entirely objectionable from beginning to end, it might be so modified as not to leave any part of it?—We do not object to that, so that our scheme be remitted to them to deal with the objectionable parts in our scheme, and to modify them.

[The Witness withdrew.

The clauses were further discussed.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at Half-past Ten o'clock.

Saturday, 20th July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

The clauses of the Bill were proceeded with.

Mr. *O'Malley* desired that it should be understood that any part which he might take in the criticism of the clauses, did not commit him to the preamble of the Bill. 20 July 1867.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee would hold him perfectly free and uncommitted.

The postponed clauses were then proceeded with.

Clause 20, after some discussion, was postponed.

On Clause 30—

Mr. *Richards* proposed an amendment of the clause.

Mr. *O'Malley* objected to the clause, upon the ground that any process of purification being to a certain extent a nuisance, and the Gas Companies being at present liable to indictment for nuisance, this clause, if passed, might be pleaded in bar to such indictment.

After some discussion,

The Committee overruled Mr. O'Malley's objection, and passed the clause as it stood before them.

On Clause 32—

Dr. *Henry Letheby*, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Davison*.

4972*. You are Professor of Chemistry to the London Hospital and Gas Analyst to the City of London?—Yes. Dr. *H. Letheby*.

4973*. You have had very large experience in examining gas from 1852, if not before, to the present time?—Yes, I have.

4974*. As regards Clause 32: "Gas supplied by the companies shall be wholly free from sulphuretted hydrogen, and nothing in this Act shall authorise the gas referees to allow of gas being charged with any amount of impurity in that form." I believe, assuming the test to be right, that there is no difficulty about the companies complying with that clause?—There is not; a question may arise as to the mode in which the test is to be applied.

4975. Would you have any objection to putting into that clause the test by which the gas should be tested for that purpose?—Not the least; I may take the

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

20 July 1867.

test which has already been settled by M. Dumas and M. Regnaud in Paris, who are the greatest authorities in France, with respect to the examination of gas in France; and I may put before you their report upon it; it is sugar of lead paper.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Richards.*

4976. Would you have any objection to take the test, which I believe has worked satisfactorily enough, given in the 25th section of the Act, 1860; that is to say, that the gas shall be "so far free from ammonia and sulphuretted hydrogen, that it shall not discolour either turmeric paper or paper imbued with acetate or carbonate of lead, when those tests are exposed to a current of gas issuing for one minute under a pressure of 5-10ths of an inch of water?"—I would like to increase the time to 15 minutes.

4977. I think I am right in saying that as the clause stands, chemically speaking, gas cannot be free from sulphuretted hydrogen?—It may be free from sulphuretted hydrogen, but there may be a mode of applying a test which may be open to doubt as to whether or not it is sulphuretted hydrogen which has produced the discolouration. I could mention a case about which there has been a trial in which I have been engaged this last week. Silver has been held over the gas, and people would say that the discolouration arose from sulphuretted hydrogen; it might have arisen from something else. Disputes may arise as to the way of testing.

4978. And, substituting 15 minutes for one minute, you would propose to adopt the clause of 1860?—The word "moistened" should be inserted,—to discolour moistened paper.

Re-examined by Mr. *Davison.*

4979. You advise us first of all that there would be no difficulty about the companies doing this?—There would not.

4980. And you know the gas referees would have the power to choose the test from time to time?—Exactly.

4981. By the *Committee.*] Do you consider it a perfect test, as you propose to adopt it?—Yes, I do; but if that test, and all the processes of testing, are to be left to the referees, then this, with all the others, might be left open; but as it is, I have no hesitation in saying that the test which I have mentioned, would be perfect.

After some discussion,

4982. Mr. *Richards* (to the *Witness*).] Supposing a silver leaf be exposed to the flow of gas, is it not true that that will, under almost all circumstances, detect the presence of some amount of sulphuretted hydrogen?—It will become discoloured, but the question will arise, whether that is due to sulphuretted hydrogen or anything else; discolouration will take place.

4983. Do not many chemists consider that that is the result of sulphuretted hydrogen?—It has been attributed to sulphuretted hydrogen within the last week; I know a case of it.

4984. Is it not true that that is a fact of comparatively late discovery?—No, I have known it for a long time; but I am putting it that the chemical referees would be practical men; they would not adopt any doubtful tests like that.

4985. But is it reasonable in your judgment that there should be a positive prohibition of the least existence of sulphuretted hydrogen, when the exclusion of it can always be detected by this silver leaf?—If a very severe test of that kind is applied, I can imagine that the companies will, now and then, be liable to penalties; but I should suppose that the gas board would be composed of practical chemists, who would not use anything of a doubtful character.

4986. But let me read these words, "shall be chemically free;" is it possible to attain that purity?—It is quite possible that if you were passing for a whole 12 months through a tube containing a sugar of lead paper, there might be a little discolouration; but the referees would not call for such a severe test as that.

4987. Mr.

4987. Mr. *Michael.*] Now I would ask you first, for all practical purposes, is not the acetate of lead moistened paper an adequate test?—Unquestionably, there is no doubt about that; when applied for a quarter of an hour it is a practical test.

4988. *Chairman.*] Can sulphuretted hydrogen be entirely excluded from gas which is the product of cannel coal?—Yes, that is to say, practically excluded; we are not putting the case of a severe chemical test; but taking the word "wholly" in a practical sense, I should say that cannel gas can be purified.

The *Chairman* stated that Mr. Richards having proposed a test which Dr. Letheby had alleged as sufficient, the Committee had decided to leave it to the Board of Trade and the gas referees.

On Clause 33—

4989. Mr. *Davison* (to Dr. *Letheby*).] You have read Clause 33, have you not?—Yes.

4990. And you would advise us that it would be better that the place should be defined in this way: "Every such place, being not less than 1,000 yards?"—Yes; I believe that that is the proper way to put it; I think great difficulties would arise if you put it "as near as may be to 1,000 yards."

Mr. *Richards* proposed an amendment.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee were of opinion that the clause should stand.

Clause 39 was read and agreed to, with an amendment.

On Clause 40—

Mr. *O'Malley* submitted that the effect of the clause as it stood, would be to enable the company to supply a low illuminating power during one portion of the day, and a higher power at another, and that instead of the average of the testings during the day being considered as the amount of the illuminating power for the day, that should be taken from the lowest testing in any one day.

4991. *Chairman* (to Dr. *Letheby*).] I suppose a great deal of gas is supplied during a certain part of the 24 hours, that is to say, as during the night, and a very little at other hours, namely, in the daytime?—Yes.

4992. Now if the average clause is passed exactly as it is put in the Bill, would it not be possible to have a higher quality of gas at the time of the minimum supply, and a lower quality at the time of the maximum supply, and so to give really in the average a much lower quality of gas than it is the object of this Bill to secure?—In my opinion, it is not possible to do so.

4993. Why?—Because it is impossible, as I believe, in the regulation or in the management of any supply of gas to the public mains, so to apportion that supply as to give a low power at one hour of the day, and a higher power at another; it is practically impossible, as I know from my experience of the practice of gas-works, to deliver gas so as to give a low power in the day and a higher power at night.

4994. You are the City officer, are you not?—I am.

4995. And are employed at present for gas purposes by the City of London?—I am.

4996. Is it your opinion that if Clause 40 is inserted in the Bill, in the terms in which it is drawn, it will be a fair clause as between the companies and the consumers, or that there will be a risk of the consumers being unduly prejudiced by it?—I think it is a very fair clause as it stands.

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that he proposed to call a witness upon this clause.

4997. Mr. *Davison* (to the *Witness*).] You have heard what my learned friend says, that the lowest of the testings of the illuminating power in each day is to be the test; how will that affect the companies?—It is very serious in many ways; there may be an error of the experimentor; a single experiment made upon the illuminating power of gas showing a low result, may be an error of experiment, and not indicating truly a low quality of gas, and it is necessary therefore to repeat the experiment; and the larger your basis of observations is,

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

20 July 1867.

the more correct are the results. Therefore, it is that you should found your judgment upon all the experiments that are made within a reasonable time, as for example in the three or four hours of the testing.

4998. The minimum might be an error?—That might be an error of the manipulator, rather than the fault of the companies' gas.

Cross-examined by Mr. *O'Malley.*

4999. You say that first of all the object is to correct a possible error of the testing; will a testing at 10 o'clock at night tend to correct an error of the testing at 10 o'clock in the morning?—No, that is over a long period of time.

5000. The average of the testings at 10 o'clock in the morning could have no effect upon the testings at 10 o'clock at night?—No; but if the testings are made in that manner in the morning, they ought to be made over a long period of time to get accurate results; then that may be regarded as the illuminating power of the gas for that time.

5001. Are there not, in each testing, ten observations made, generally?—Yes.

5002. That is done for the purpose of observation?—Yes.

5003. But during that process there is ample opportunity of testing, is there not?—Yes, there is; but the lamp may be burning badly.

5004. Do you mean to say that the company may not supply two different qualities of gas, one in the morning, and one at night?—I do not mean to say that they cannot do it; but I mean to say that it will be a very difficult and almost impossible task.

5005. Suppose that they have their gas stored in two different gas-holders; cannot they supply in the morning from one, and in the evening from the other?—You know you have a gas board to examine gas-works.

5006. That is not an answer to my question; cannot they supply different qualities of gas in the morning and in the evening?—If you put the case that there is a systematic fraud to be committed, that there are two sets of gasholders in the establishment, and that they have the power of supplying the gas from one in the day and from the other in the night, I will candidly say that that is possible, but it is not at all probable, considering that the gas-works are to be under the supervision of the gas referees.

5007. This is to guard against anything of the kind; is it not perfectly possible for a company at one hour of the day to be making gas with a small quantity of cannel coal in it; to put cannel coal into the retorts, and send it up into the pipes?—To be working from their retorts into the mains?

5008. Yes?—It is quite possible to do that.

5009. And, by so doing, to change the result of the test?—Yes; if they could ensure the delivery of the gas at any particular time, at any particular place.

5010. Have you not yourself had experience of the quality of the gas being changed while you were making the test?—On the works?

5011. Yes?—On the works, but never in the towns.

5012. But that was because you did not test it there?—Yes, I did; and that is how it was that I found I was deceived. You are alluding to a special case.

5013. I am alluding to a special case, where it was done on purpose to show you that the quality of the gas could be changed in a few minutes?—But they did not do so. I tested the gas in the town first, and I found the illuminating power to be so and so; then I went to the works, and was told that according to the provisions of the Act of Parliament, I could not test for an hour, I think it was. During that hour they had manufactured a superior quality of gas, and when I tested it at the works I found it so different from what I had tested in the town, that I said there must be some reason for this, and then I went back to the town and tested, and it was as I had found it before.

5014. I do not mean to say that they did you, but I mean to say that they did the gas; do not you know that actually while the test was going on, upon one occasion, in the course of your examination, the character of the gas was changed?—I do not remember that.

5015. Do not you remember that you yourself stated so?—I cannot remember that.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee were of opinion that it was unnecessary to go into these details.

5016. *Chairman.*]

5016. *Chairman* (to the *Witness*).] Looking to these clauses, taken together, and to the 40th in particular, is it, in your opinion, that the fairest mode of dealing between those who supply the gas and those who consume the gas is to leave it as it is, or to leave out the word "average," and to put in the words "the lowest"?—I think it is fair as it stands.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee were unanimously decided to pass the clause as it stood.

On Clause 48,

Mr. *Michael* objected to the clause, and desired that the price of the cannel gas should be left to arbitrament, and should be proportionate to the price of 3 *s.* 9 *d.* for 16 candle gas.

Clause 48 was postponed.

On Clause 49—

Mr. *O'Malley* objected to the clause, and submitted that there should be three arbitrators, of whom his client should appoint one.

The *Chairman* stated that the best way would be to say that the Board of Trade should appoint two competent and impartial persons to be Commissioners for the purpose, with the power, if they should think fit, of nominating a third. The result would be that they would appoint a committee of three, of whom two would be a quorum, the third remaining dormant until called upon.

A clause carrying out the above suggestions was ordered to be shown to the parties before the next meeting.

Clause 50 was agreed to, with amendments.

Clause 51 was dismissed, and postponed.

Clause 52 was read, and agreed to.

Mr. *O'Malley* objected to Clause 54.

Dr. *Henry Letheby* re-called, and further examined.

5017. *Chairman.*] Have you considered the 54th clause?—I have not had an opportunity of reading it until now.

5018. Have you read the amendments that have been made upon it?—Yes, I have. I think, considering that the illuminating power is to be taken upon the average of the whole day, it gives a large basis, so to speak, for arriving at the quality of the gas for the day, and that the company, during the day, would have the opportunity, if there was anything going wrong, of setting it right before the day was over; it does appear to me, therefore, that it should be "if on any day."

5019. Is 50 *l.* sufficient from every station?—Supposing the case of the companies amalgamating.

5020. We have supposed that the whole concern was amalgamated, and the whole thing was made as economical as possible; would 50 *l.* be sufficient?—That would be 50 *l.* for each station. The practice in France is that the penalty is given upon gas of a certain quality rather than upon the quantity.

5021. Mr. *O'Malley.*] Would it not be worth the while of the companies to supply 10 candle gas, instead of 16, for 10 hours a day?—That was in my mind.

[The Witness withdrew.

(The Clause was postponed.)

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, 23rd July 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. J. Hardy.	Mr. Lefevre.
Mr. Peel.	

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, IN THE CHAIR.

23 July 1867.

The Clauses of the Bill were proceeded with, it being still understood that the preamble of the Bill was postponed.

On Clause 51,

Mr. *Davison* proposed to leave out paragraph 1 of the clause, and to insert the following words:—"They shall fix such an illuminating power and such a price as shall be calculated to yield to the company, with due care and management, a dividend in that year (after allowing for the excess or surplus, if any, carried in the then last preceding year to the credit of the divisible profits of the Company) attaining or at least approaching the rate of 10 pounds per centum per annum."

Mr. *Davison* stated that the desire of his clients was to carry out the views of the Committee, and he believed that the words "calculated to attain as near as may be," or some words of that kind, would effect the object.

Mr. *Hope Scott*, referring to the views of the Committee with regard to the maximum dividend communicated to the parties on the 16th of July, stated that the consent of the companies had been founded on an impression that the Committee did not intend to sanction the introduction of such words as "at least approaching the maximum dividend;" and though his clients had no objection to the words of the general Act, they must now be understood as declining to assent to the use of the words "attaining or at least approaching."

Mr. *O'Malley* stated that he now hoped the Committee would reject the Bill, and report in the sense which they had already intimated to the parties.

The Committee retired to deliberate.

On their return into the room,

Chairman.] The Committee propose that the clause shall run thus:—"They shall fix such an illuminating power and such a price as shall be calculated to yield to the company, with due care and management, a dividend in that year (after allowing for the excess or surplus, if any, carried in the then last preceding year to the credit of the divisible profits of the company) attaining as near as may be, but in no case exceeding, the rate of 10 per cent. per annum."

Mr. *O'Malley* (in answer to a question from the *Chairman*) stated that his clients would abide by the clause as it was formerly resolved upon by the Committee, as containing the words "at least approaching," and that they would prefer the entire rejection of the Bill if those words were not admitted.

Mr.

23 July 1867.

Mr. *Grove* made a similar statement on behalf of his clients.

Mr. *Hope Scott* inquired whether the Chairman, by omitting to read any further in the clause than the words "10 per cent. per annum," had intended to deny the companies the right of making up any previous deficiency of dividend.

The *Chairman* assenting,

Mr. *Hope Scott* stated that that left the companies in an unexpected condition before the Committee, and that he must on that ground withdraw their consent.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee would report to the House in conformity with the Resolution already communicated to the parties.

LIST OF APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

PAGE

Papers handed in by Mr. Denison, 3 June 1867:

Accounts from each Metropolitan Gas Company, showing the Actual State and Condition of each Company, as to Capital, Revenue, and Dividends, for the Year 1866 (pursuant to the 41st Section of 23 & 24 Vict. c. 125) - 288

Chartered Gas Company - 288
City of London Gas Light and Coke Company - 289
Commercial Gas Company - 290
Equitable Gas Light Company - 291
Great Central Gas Consumers' Company - 292
Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company - 293
Independent Gas Light and Coke Company - 294
London Gas Light Company - 295
Phœnix Gas Light and Coke Company - 296
Ratcliff Gas Light and Coke Company - 297
South Metropolitan Gas Light Company - 298
Surrey Consumers' Gas Company - 299
Western Gas Light Company - 300

Appendix, No. 2.

Paper handed in by Mr. H. Brothers, 3 June 1867:

Equitable Gas Light Company.—Dividends actually paid - 301

Appendix, No. 3.

Heads of Returns to be supplied by each Company - 302

1. Chartered Gas Company - 303
2. City of London Gas Light and Coke Company - 305
3. Commercial Gas Company - 306
4. Equitable Gas Light Company - 307
5. Great Central Gas Consumers' Company - 307
6. Imperial Gas Light Company - 308
7. Independent Gas Light and Coke Company - 311
8. The London Gas Light Company - 312
9. Phœnix Gas Light Company - 313
10. Ratcliff Gas Light and Coke Company - 317
11. South Metropolitan Gas Light Company - 318
12. Surrey Consumers' Gas Company - 319
13. The Western Gas Light Company - 320

Appendix, No. 4.

Papers handed in by Mr. Michael, 18 June 1867:

Alphabetical Table, showing the Minimum Illuminating Power prescribed by Parliament from 1856 to 1866 (both years inclusive), with Date of Act, and Maximum Price - 323

Alphabetical Analysis of House of Commons Return, August 1866.—Captain Gridley - 325

Capitals of Provincial Gas Companies, ascertained by Application from the Metropolitan Gas Companies to all the Gas Companies in England having a Capital of 5,000 *l.* and upwards - 327

Return supplied by the Western Company - 328

Appendix, No. 5.

Paper handed in by Mr. Baxter, 19 June 1867 : PAGE

Table showing the Results of each Company's Operations in the Year 1866, and the Average of those making Coal Gas only, and those making both kinds; the Amounts being taken, so far as they therein appear, from the Parliamentary Returns - - 329

Appendix, No. 6.

Papers handed in by Mr. Hawksley, 19 June 1867 :

Mr. Hughes' Plan for supplying London with Eighteen-candle Gas, at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 Cubic Feet - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 331

Dr. Frankland's Three Modes of supplying London with Gas of Eighteen-candle Illuminating Power, at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 Cubic Feet - - - - - - - 332

Mr. Stevenson's Plan for supplying London with Eighteen-candle Gas, at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 Cubic Feet - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 333

Mr. Clemenshaw's Estimate of the Cost of making Eighteen-candle Gas in London, as opposed to the Estimate of the Five Engineers representing the Metropolitan Companies - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 334

Appendix, No. 7.

Papers handed in by Mr. Hawksley, 25 June 1867 :

Cost of Gas at the Consumer's Meter, of various Illuminating Powers, on the Basis of 9,600 Cubic Feet of Twelve-candle Gas being generated from One Ton of Newcastle Coal, and 9,600 Cubic Feet of Twenty-four-candle Gas being generated from One Ton of Wigan Cannel. The Depreciation in transmission to the Testing-house being 1–10th of the normal Illuminating Power, and 8,000 Cubic Feet of the mixed Gases being sold for every Ton of Coals carbonised - - - - - - - - - - - - 335

Synopsis of the Operations of the Nottingham Gas Company, for the Year 1866, by Thomas Hawksley, Esq., C.E., as directed by the Select Committee of the House of Commons - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 336

Appendix, No. 8.

Paper handed in by Mr. Hope Scott, 26 June 1867 :

Comparative Statement of the Net Cost of a Ton of Coals to the 13 Metropolitan Gas Companies, for the Year 1866 - - - - - - - - - - - 337

APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

Appendix, No. 1.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Denison*, 3 June 1867.

ACCOUNTS from each METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANY, showing the Actual STATE and Condition of each COMPANY, as to CAPITAL, REVENUE, and DIVIDENDS, for the Year 1866 (pursuant to the 41st Section of 23 & 24 Vict. c. 125).

LIST.

	PAGE
Chartered Gas Company - - -	288
City of London Gas Light and Coke Company - - - - -	289
Commercial Gas Company - - -	290
Equitable Gas Light Company - -	291
Great Central Gas Consumers' Company	292
Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company -	293
Independent Gas Light and Coke Company - - - - - - -	294
London Gas Light Company - -	295
Phœnix Gas Light and Coke Company	296
Ratcliff Gas Light and Coke Company -	297
South Metropolitan Gas Light Company	298
Surrey Consumers' Gas Company -	299
Western Gas Light Company - -	300

ACCOUNTS from each METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANY, showing the actual STATE and CONDITION of eac COMPANY, as to CAPITAL, REVENUE, and DIVIDENDS, for the Year 1866 (pursuant to the 41st Section 23 & 24 Vict. c. 125).

CHARTERED GAS COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS, showing the actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the GAS LIGHT a COKE COMPANY, for the Twelve Months ended the 25th day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—STATE of the ACCOUNT at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	TOTAL Paid up.	TOTAL CAPITAL.
Shares:		£.	£.	£.	£.
50 Geo. 3, c. 163, s. 2 - -	4,000	50	50	200,000	
56 Geo. 3, c. 87, s. 2 - -	4,000	50	50	200,000	
59 Geo. 3, c. 20, s. 2 - -	4,000	50	50	200,000	
4 Geo. 4, c. 119, s. 1 - -	6,000	50	35	210,000	
					810,000
				TOTAL CAPITAL - - - £.	810,000

BALANCES brought forward.

	Christmas 1865.	Christmas 1866.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Depreciation Fund - - - - -	794 4 3	979 5 10
Contingency Fund - - - - -	19,118 - 7	17,447 10 11
Revenue Account - - - - -	469 5 6	541 16 -
Dividend Account - - - - -	53,236 17 11	42,363 1 5

2. REVENUE.—ACCOUNT of all SUMS actually Received and Paid during the above Twelve Months, viz., of Assets receivable, and of Liabilities absolutely incurred.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s.
Sale of Gas:			Management:		
Common gas, at 4 s. per 1,000 cubic feet - - - -	175,280 11 11		Directors' allowances - - - -	4,071 18 -	
Cannel gas, at 5 s. 6 d. per 1,000 cubic feet - - - -	58,182 17 5		Salaries - - - - - -	8,562 18 7	
Public lighting, and under contracts, deducting 5,998 l. 7 s. 7 d. cost of repairing and lighting public lamps - - - -	16,992 - 5		Collectors' commission - - - -	3,732 7 10	
	250,455 9 9		Stationery, printing, and general charges	4,873 12 8	
Less,—Bad debts - - -	1,492 17 6		Payment to auditors - - - -	162 15 -	
		248,962 12 3			21,403 12
Rental of meters - - - -	- -	4,530 18 9	Manufacture of Gas:		
Sale of old materials - - - -	- -	1,523 12 -	Coals, including carriage, dues, &c. -	140,358 17 9	
Sale of Residual Products:			Purifying materials - - - -	1,646 12 -	
Coke (less bad debts, 1,023 l. 18 s. 2 d.)	38,543 8 2		Supervision and labour - - - -	32,031 6 11	
Breeze - - - - -	2,098 2 -		Retorts, tools, and other implements -	7,194 1 6	
Tar (less bad debts, 11 s. 6 d.) -	7,280 3 3		Ordinary repair, and maintenance of premises - - - - - -	15,960 7 10	
Ammoniacal liquid - - -	1,422 16 7		Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory and offices - - - - -	11,422 5 3	
		49,344 10 -			208,613 11
Miscellaneous Receipts - - - - - -		10,692 4 -	Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
			Ordinary repair and maintenance - -	5,396 3 6	
			Meters:		
			Restoring and replacing - - -	4,803 16 10	
			Additional - - - - - -	607 6 2	
					10,807 6
			Law and Parliamentary charges - - - - - -		1,605 16
			On temporary Loan from Bankers - - - - -		1,210 3
			Depreciation fund for gas holder and coal store on leasehold property - - - - - - - - - -		185 1
			Reserve fund for contingency, wear and tear, or other purposes		376 3
			Balance, being shareholders' profit - - - - -		70,852 2
TOTAL RECEIPTS - - - £.		315,053 17 -	TOTAL EXPENDITURE - - £.		315,053 17

3. DIVIDENDS.—ACCOUNT of all DIVIDENDS actually Paid for the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s.
Balance, being shareholders' profit, as above - -	70,852 2 3	Dividends on 810,000 l. Capital Stock, at 8¾ per cent. - -	70,779 11
		Balance - - - - - -	72 10
£.	70,852 2 3	£.	70,852 2

We have examined the above Accounts, and certify them to be correct.

S. Adams Beck, Chairman.
J. O. Phillips, Secretary.

CITY OF LONDON GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the City of London Gas Light and Coke Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 24th Day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Accounts at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
		£.	£.	£.	£.
Shares—The City of London Gas Company's Act, 1859	10,000 A.'s	20	20	200,000	
	10,000 B.'s	10	10	100,000	
	8,000 New	10	10	80,000	
	2,000 Second Issue.	10	4	8,000	
					388,000
Borrowed monies under the above Act	Bonds	Rate, 5 *l.* per cent.		£. 58,800	
	Paid in advance of Calls	ditto		6,588	
					65,388
Profits capitalized					nil.
				Total Capital £.	453,388

BALANCES:

	Christmas 1865. £. s. d.	Christmas 1866. £. s. d.
Contingent Fund	5,360 10 3	5,360 10 3
Revenue Account	6,448 6 6	4,944 11 6
Dividend Account (unpaid)	393 13 7	665 18 7

2. REVENUE.—Account of all Sums actually Received and Paid during the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
ances brought forward:		
Contingent Fund (*see* above).		
Revenue Account	6,448 6 6	6,448 6 6
Dividend Account (*see* above).		
e of Gas:		
Common gas, at 4 *s.* per 1,000 feet	96,933 7 9	
Cannel gas, at 5 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet	5,868 14 5	
Public lighting and under contract	4,279 8 3	
	107,081 10 5	
Less bad debts, bankrupts' estates, &c.	699 16 9	106,381 13 8
ital of meters (none charged).		
e of old materials	- -	841 5 2
e of Residual Products:		
Coke	20,596 15 1	
Breeze	1,735 17 6	
Tar	3,995 5 –	
Ammoniacal liquid	1,515 15 –	
Other waste products	nil.	27,843 12 7
scellaneous Receipts		6 15 6
Total Receipts £.		141,521 13 5

EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Management:		
Directors' allowances	1,200 – –	
Salary of secretary and clerks	1,640 – –	
Collectors' commission and pay	900 – –	
Stationery, printing, and general charges	1,486 2 10	
Rents, rates, and taxes of offices (not separated)	—	
Payment to auditors	109 4 –	5,335 6 10
Manufacture of Gas:		
Coals, including carriage, dues, &c.	54,822 7 4	
Purifying materials	801 19 –	
Supervision and labour	19,731 18 5	
Tools and other implements	687 14 11	
Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises	6,669 5 –	
Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory	3,264 10 8	
Improvement and extension of premises and machinery (out of revenue)	nil	85,977 15 4
Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
Ordinary repair and maintenance	7,907 11 8	
Improvement and extension (out of revenue)	nil.	
Meters:		
Restoring and replacing	2,677 17 7	
Additional (out of revenue)	nil.	10,585 9 3
Law and Parliamentary charges	- -	1,854 12 11
Interest: Paid from profits on bonds, 58,800 *l.* at 5 *l.* per cent.	2,974 3 –	
Temporary loans	430 5 2	
Payments in anticipation of Calls	107 5 –	3,511 13 2
Reserve fund		nil.
Added to capital		nil.
Balance for shareholders' profit		34,256 15 11
Total Expenditure £.		141,521 13 5

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends declared out of the Balance of Profit to 24th December 1866.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
lance for shareholders' profit, as above	34,256 15 11	Dividend on 388,000 *l.* at 10 *l.*, 8 *l.*, and 4 *l.* per cent.	29,312 4 5
		Balance to next year's account	4,944 11 6
£.	34,256 15 11	£.	34,256 15 11

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

Dorset-street, 17 May 1867.

Robt. Alex. Gray, Chairman.
R. J. Millar, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL GAS COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Commercial Gas Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 30th day of June 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
Shares:		£.	£.	£. s.	£. s. d.
Commercial Gas Act, 15 & 16 Vict. c. 155	17,484 2/5, 1/10, 1/20	25	25	437,113 15	
	5 4/5, 1/10	25	various	106 10	
	17,490 3/5, 1/20				437,220 5 –
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
Borrowed monies			4	– –	500 – –
				Total Capital £.	437,720 5 –

2. REVENUE.—Account of all the Sums actually Received and Paid during the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	EXPENDITURE.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balances brought forward:			Management:		
Reserve Fund	– –	3,590 – 7	Directors' allowances	1,500 – –	
Sale of Gas:			Salaries of secretary and clerks	2,718 19 2	
Common gas, at 4 s. per 1,000 feet	109,955 14 5		Collectors' commission and pay	1,283 9 6	
Public lighting and under contracts	14,459 13 10		Rent, rates, and taxes of offices	100 – –	
		124,415 8 3	Stationery, printing, and general charges	2,125 13 1	
Sale of Residual Products:			Payment to auditors	150 – –	
Coke	18,586 18 6				7,878 1
Breeze	1,183 10 9		Manufacture of Gas:		
Tar	3,335 6 1		Coals, including carriage, dues, &c.	62,303 9 5	
Ammoniacal liquid	1,685 15 7		Purifying materials	1,527 7 11	
		24,791 10 11	Supervision and labour	19,287 3 7	
Miscellaneous Receipts		1,406 10 1	Tools and other implements	410 15 9	
			Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises	4,624 4 2	
			Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory	2,612 6 2	
					90,765 7
			Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
			Ordinary repair and maintenance		2,459 12
			Meters:		
			Restoring and replacing		927 12
			Law and Parliamentary charges		51 1 10
			Interest paid from profits on 500 l., borrowed capital, at 4 per cent. (less sums outstanding)		19 13
			Reserved Fund for contingency, wear and tear, or other purposes		8,317 17 10
			Balance for shareholders' profit		43,718 10
Total Receipts		154,203 9 10	Total Expenditure £.		154,137 17
Total Expenditure		154,137 17 3			
Balance to Revenue next year		65 12 7			

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of Dividends actually Paid in the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Balance for shareholders' profit, as above	43,718 10 5	Dividend on 437,220 l. 5 s., capital stock, at 10 per cent. (less sums remaining outstanding)	43,718 10
		Balance to next year's account	—

4. RESERVE FUND.

	£. s. d.
Balance from Revenue Account above	8,317 17 10
Dividends on Consols	59 6 7
Total Reserve Fund £.	8,377 4 5

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

Chas. Salisbury Butler, Chairman.
George Jaques, Secretary.

EQUITABLE GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

NNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Equitable Gas Light Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
		£.	£.	£.	£.
Shares (5 Vict. Sess. 2, c. 36)	4,000	50	50	200,000	
	4,000	25	25	100,000	
					300,000
				Total Capital - - - £.	300,000

2. REVENUE.—Account of all Sums actually Received and Paid during the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
lances brought forward:		
Revenue Account - - -	5,943 15 11	
Dividend Account - - -	67 15 9	
		6,011 11 8
le of Gas:		
Common gas, at 4 *s.* per 1,000 feet	60,049 7 10	
Cannel gas, at 5 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet - - - - - -	7,675 19 5	
Public lighting and under contracts	6,369 – 11	
		74,094 8 2
ntal of meters - - - -	- -	1,580 16 6
le of old materials - - - -	- -	138 14 10
le of Residual Products:		
Coke - - - - - -	13,222 1 2	
Breeze - - - - - -	821 13 7	
Tar - - - - - -	2,487 14 6	
Ammoniacal liquid - - -	1,022 6 –	
		17,553 15 3
iscellaneous receipts - - - - - -		510 8 9
Total Receipts - - -		99,889 15 2
Total Expenditure - -		91,903 6 –
Balance to Revenue next year - - - £.		7,986 9 2

EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Management:		
Directors' allowances - - - -	1,300 – –	
Salary of secretary and clerks - -	1,841 19 10	
Collectors' commission and pay - -	923 3 6	
Rent, rates, and taxes of offices - -	162 19 4	
Stationery, printing, and general charges -	1,044 5 11	
Payment to auditors - - - -	90 – –	
		5,362 8 7
Manufacture of Gas:		
Coals, including carriage, dues, &c. -	36,931 14 7	
Purifying materials - - - -	337 10 –	
Supervision and labour - - - -	7,739 – 3	
Tools and other implements - - -	49 17 10	
Ordinary repair and maintenance - -	5,512 11 10	
Rent of premises, rates, and taxes of manufactory - - - - - -	2,057 11 –	
		52,628 5 6
Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
Ordinary repair and maintenance - -	3,177 19 2	
Meters:		
Restoring and replacing - - -	709 17 9	
		3,887 16 11
Law and Parliamentary charges - - - - - -		735 15 2
Balance for shareholders' profit - - - - - -		29,288 19 10
Total Expenditure - - - £.		91,903 6 –

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends actually Paid in the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
alance for shareholders' profit, as above - - - -	29,288 19 10	Dividends on 300,000 *l.* capital stock, at 10 per cent. (less sums remaining outstanding) - - - - - -	29,095 4 2
		Balance to next year's account - - - - -	193 15 8
£.	29,288 19 10	£.	29,288 19 10

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

Charles H. A. Martelli, Chairman.
Saml. Andrews, Secretary.

GREAT CENTRAL GAS CONSUMERS' COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Great Central Gas Consumers' Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
		£.		£.	£.
Shares (14 & 15 Vict. c. 69, 185) -	20,000	10	All - -	200,000	200,000
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
				£.	
Borrowed monies - - - - - - - - - - -			5	66,000	66,000
Profits capitalised - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -					None.
				Total Capital - - - £.	266,000

2. REVENUE.—Account during the above Twelve Months.

INCOME:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balances brought forward:		
Revenue Account - - -	2,133 11 6	
Dividend Account - - -	10,000 - -	
		12,133 11 6
Sale of Gas:		
Common gas, at 4 s. per 1,000 feet - - - - - -	69,194 9 4	
Public lighting and under contracts - - - - - -	8,830 10 7	
		78,024 19 11
Sale of Residual Products:		
Coke and breeze - - - -	17,816 - 9	
Tar and ammoniacal liquid - -	4,807 12 1	
		22,623 12 10
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - - - -		24 15 -
Total Income - - - -		112,806 19 3
Total Expenditure - - -		111,908 10 8
Balance to Revenue next year - - £.		898 8 7

EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Management:		
Directors' allowances - - - -	1,500 - -	
Salary of secretary and clerks - -	1,270 - -	
Collectors' commission and pay - -	834 17 10	
Rent, rates, and taxes of offices - -	478 6 1	
General charges, including stationery and printing - - - - -	1,767 13 1	
Payment to auditors - - - -	81 8 -	
		5,932 5 -
Manufacture of Gas:		
Coals, including carriage, dues, &c. -	39,802 11 11	
Purifying materials - - - -	447 13 8	
Supervision and labour - - -	11,877 18 1	
Stores, tools, implements, and ordinary repair and maintenance of premises -	3,993 11 10	
Rent, rates, and taxes of manufactory -	1,252 3 5	
		57,373 18 11
Distribution, including service mains, pipes, and ordinary repair and maintenance - - - - - - -	8,060 8 5	
Meters:		
Restoring and replacing - - -	1,286 19 3	
		9,347 7 8
Law and Parliamentary charges - - -	1,225 10 5	
Interest paid from profits, on £. 66,000 borrowed capital, at 5 per cent. - -	3,279 8 8	
Wood-street fire - - - - - -	4,750 - -	
		9,254 19 1
Balance for shareholders' profit - - - - - -		30,000 - -
Total Expenditure - - - £.		111,908 10 8

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends actually Paid in the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Balance for shareholders' profit, as above - - -	30,000 - -	Dividends declared April and October - - - -	20,000 - -
		Balance to next year's account - - - - -	10,000 - -
£.	30,000 - -	£.	30,000 - -

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

Thomas Dakin, Chairman.
R. M. Massey, Secretary.

IMPERIAL GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

NNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
res raised—		£. s.	£. s. d.	£. s.	£. s. d.
Under 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 117; 4 Geo. 4, c. 95; and 10 Geo. 4, c. 12	13,000	50 –	50 – –	650,000 –	
Under 17 Vict. c. 55 (Act of Company's re-incorporation) - -	13,000	50 –	50 – –	650,000 –	
Ditto - - ditto - - ditto - - -	24,530	10 –	– 2 6	3,066 5	
Under 29 & 30 Vict. c. 352 - - - - - - - -	17,640	12 10	3 – –	52,920 –	
					1,355,986 –
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
				£.	
owed monies under the authority of the above-mentioned Acts - - - - - - - -			4	11,300	
			4½	40,000	
			5	248,200	
					299,500 – –
ds authorised by 17 Vict. c. 55 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -					130,000 – –
unt received in anticipation of Calls on 3,081 Shares - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -					29,269 10 –
				Total Capital - - - £.	1,814,755 15 –

2. REVENUE.—Account of all Income and Expenditure during the above Twelve Months.

INCOME:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
of Gas:			Management:		
Common gas at maximum of 4s. per 1,000 feet - - - -	410,832 19 7		Directors' allowances - - - - - -	2,500 – –	
Public lighting and under contracts - - - - - -	66,203 10 7		Salary of secretary and clerks - - - -	9,071 7 3	
		477,036 10 2	Collectors' commission and pay - - - -	7,696 8 1	
al of meters - - - - -	- -	8,671 7 –	Rent, rates, and taxes of offices - - - -	310 11 4	
			Stationery, printing, and general charges - -	1,572 4 8	
of old materials - - - -	- -	1,123 12 4	Payment to auditors - - - - - -	157 10 –	
					21,308 1 4
of Residual Products:			Manufacture of Gas:		
			Coals, including carriage, dues, &c. - - -	246,560 6 4	
Coke - - - - - -	78,643 3 4		Oil, tallow, stokers' gloves, cartage, &c. - -	4,205 2 4	
			Purifying materials - - - - - -	4,816 15 6	
Breeze - - - - - -	7,694 18 6		Supervision and labour - - - - - -	53,320 10 10	
			Tools and other implements, repaired and replaced		
Tar - - - - - - -	11,187 3 10		Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises -	53,095 – 2	
			Stationery, printing, and general charges - -	1,500 – –	
Ammoniacal liquid - - -	2,359 2 11		Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory - -	5,794 4 7	
		99,884 8 7			369,291 19 9
			Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
ellaneous receipts - - - - - - -		358 10 2	Supervision and labour - - - - - -	19,031 12 11	
			Rent, rates, and taxes - - - - - -	4,642 – 7	
			Ordinary repair and maintenance - - - -	7,514 14 11	
			Compensation for damages - - - - -	364 16 1	
			Stationery, printing, and general charges - -	1,566 11 1	
			Meters,—restoring and replacing - - - -	5,070 13 11	
					38,190 1
			Law and Parliamentary charges - - - - -	- - -	1,834 5
			Interest paid from profits on 299,500 l., borrowed capital, at 4 to 5 per cent. - - - - -	14,649 10 11	
			Ditto on payments in anticipation of calls - -	37 12 10	
			Ditto on Proprietors' 10 per cent. Bonds - - -	13,000 – –	
					27,687 3 9
			Bad debts - - - - - - - - - - - -	- - - -	3,262 14 1
			Contingency fund - - - - - - - - - - - -		3,000 – –
			Dividend account for shareholders' profit - - - - - - - -		122,499 9 1
	Total Income - - - £.	587,074 8 3		Total Expenditure - - - £.	587,074 8 3

3. DIVIDEND ACCOUNT.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
nce brought forward - - - - - - -	65,000 – –	Dividend for the half-year to 31st December 1865 on 1,350,000 l., capital stock, at 10 per cent. - - -	65,000 – –
nue account for shareholders' profit, as above - -	122,499 9 1	Dividend for the year 1866 on 1,352,920 l., ditto, at 10 and 7 per cent. - - - - - - - - - -	130,308 12 11
rve fund, to make up dividend - - - - -	7,809 3 10		
£.	195,308 12 11	£.	195,308 12 11

4. CONTINGENCY AND RESERVE FUNDS.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
nce brought forward - - - - - - -	119,760 7 8	Parliamentary Expenses - - - - - - -	2,535 16 –
enue account, as above - - - - - - -	3,000 – –	Dividend account, to make up deficiency - - -	7,809 3 10
dend on Consols - - - - - - - -	3,027 17 1	Balance to next year's account:—	
		On contingency fund - - - £. 37,469 19 11	
		On reserve fund - - - 77,973 5 –	
			115,443 4 11
£.	125,788 4 9	£.	125,788 4 9

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

E. V. Richards, Chairman.
Harry Chubb, Secretary.

INDEPENDENT GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Independent Gas Light and Coke Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
		£.	£. s.	£.	£.
Capital raised under 10 Geo. 4, c. 118 - -	3,000	40	40 –	120,000	
Ditto - - under the 27 & 28 Vict. c. 162	3,000	20	12 10	37,500	
Profits capitalised under 27 & 28 Vict. c. 162	3,000	10	10 –	30,000	187,500
Borrowed monies - - - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	18,000
			Total Capital - - - £.		205,500

Balances.

	£. s. d.
Reserve Fund - - - - - - - - - -	18,000 – –
Revenue Account - - - - - - - - -	10,698 1 9

2. REVENUE.—Account of all Sums actually Received and Paid during the above Twelve Months, viz.: of Asset receivable, and of Liabilities absolutely incurred.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balance brought forward - - -	- -	13,368 12 11
Sale of Gas:		
Common gas, at 3 s. 4 d. per 1,000 feet - - - - - -	58,466 11 1	
Public lamps and other contracts -	5,693 3 4	
		64,159 14 5
Rental of meters - - - -	- -	2,179 12 8
Sale of old materials - - - -	- -	222 14 6
Sale of Residual Products:		
Coke - - - - - -	14,118 10 10	
Breeze - - - - - -	988 12 –	
Tar - - - - - -	3,543 13 8	
Ammonia - - - - - -	646 5 8	
		19,297 2 2
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	- -	1,141 13 8
Total Receipts - - - £.		100,369 10 4

EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Management:		
Directors' allowances - - - -	1,700 – –	
Salaries of secretary and clerks - -	1,440 – –	
Collectors' commission and pay - -	1,098 11 7	
Rent, rates, and taxes (not separated) -	1,461 16 6	
Stationery, printing, and general charges	905 4 11	
Payments to auditors - - - -	100 – –	
		6,705
Manufacture of Gas:		
Coals, including carriage, dues, &c. -	43,849 13 9	
Purifying materials - - - -	442 10 –	
Supervision and labour, and salaries of engineer and superintendents - -	15,693 10 7	
Tools and other implements, and ordinary repair and maintenance of premises -	2,625 9 9	
		62,611
Distribution, including Service Pipes, Mains, &c.:		
Ordinary repair and maintenance of the above - - - - - - -	- -	1,056
Meters:		
Restoring and replacing - - -	- -	1,611
Bad debts and allowances - - - -	- -	507
Law and Parliamentary Charges - -	- -	453
Interest on Loans - - - - - -	- -	835
Balance, being shareholders' profit - -	- -	26,588
Total Expenditure - - - £.		100,369

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends actually Paid in the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s.
Balance, being shareholders' profit, as above - - -	26,588 14 3	Dividends on 120,000 *l.* capital stock, at 10 per cent. per annum - - - - - - - - - -	12,000 –
		Dividends on 30,000 *l.* capitalised profits, at 5 per cent. per annum - - - - - - - - - -	1,500 –
		Dividends on 37,500 *l.* new shares, at 7½ per cent. per annum	2,390 12
		Balance - - - - - - - - - -	10,698 1
£.	26,588 14 3	£.	26,588 14

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

Robert Warton, Chairman.
James B. Coulson, Secretar

LONDON GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the Actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the London Gas Light Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
Shares—		£.	£.	£.	£.
The London Gas Light Act, 1852	7,850	50	All, except 2,484	390,016	
	5,610	25	25	140,250	
Ditto - - ditto - - 1866	6,369	25	£.5 and upwards	56,855	587,121
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
				£.	
Borrowed monies - - - - - - - - - - - -			4 ½ to 5.	108,155	108,155
Profits capitalised, "Stock," The London Gas Light Act, 1857 - - - - - - - - -					30,355
				Total Capital - - - £.	725,631

2. REVENUE.—Account of all the Sums actually Received and Paid during the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
ces brought forward:			The former Balance of 28,778 *l.* – *s.* 5 *d.* expended on Capital Account, and now charged to Capital.		
Dividend account - - -	2,050 4 3	2,050 4 3	Management:		
			Directors' allowances - - - -	1,475 – –	
f Gas:			Salaries of secretary and clerks - -	3,685 3 –	
Common gas, at 4 *s.*, 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, and 5 *s.* per 1,000 feet - - -	125,526 1 6		Collectors' commission and pay - -	2,139 19 6	
Cannel gas, at 5 *s.* 6 *d.* and 6 *s.* per 1,000 feet - - - - -	7,628 15 3		Rent, rates, and taxes of offices - -	438 14 4	
			Stationery, printing, and general charges	3,753 18 5	
ublic lighting, and under contracts - - - - - -	18,999 15 11	152,154 12 8	Payment to auditors - - - -	98 6 6	11,591 1 9
			Manufacture of Gas:		
l of meters - - - -	- -	2,419 – –	Coals, including carriage, dues, &c. -	80,018 18 5	
f old materials - - - -	- -	388 4 5	Purifying materials - - - -	308 7 7	
			Supervision and labour - - -	22,009 13 8	
f Residual Products:			Tools and other implements - - -	526 13 4	
oke - - - - - - -	33,854 17 2		Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises - - - - - -	11,063 3 5	
reeze - - - - - -	2,557 7 3		Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory -	4,781 18 4	118,708 14 9
ar - - - - - - -	3,224 9 3				
mmoniacal liquid - - -	451 10 6		Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
ther waste products - - -	544 16 1	40,633 – 3	Ordinary repair and maintenance - -	9,569 6 10	
			Meters:		
llaneous receipts - - -	- -	10 7 6	Restoring and replacing - - -	2,931 1 2	12,500 8 –
			Law and Parliamentary charges - - -	1,863 8 8	
			Interest paid from profits on *l.* borrowed capital, and liabilities, at 4½ to 5 per cent. (less sums outstanding) - - -	6,709 9 3	8,572 17 11
Total Receipts - - - - -		197,655 9 1	Redemption Fund, London Gas Light Act -	- -	1,630 – –
Total Expenditure - - -		199,486 19 –	Balance for shareholders' profit - - -	48,674 – 1	
			Less unpaid - - - - -	2,190 3 6	46,483 16 7
ALANCE to be charged to Revenue next year - £.		1,831 9 11	Total Expenditure - - - £.		199,486 19 –

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends actually Paid in the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
ce for shareholders' profit, as above - - -	48,674 – 1	Dividends on 615,459 *l.* capital stock, at 5, 6, and 10 per cent. (less sums remaining outstanding) - - -	46,483 16 7
		Balance to next year's account - - - - - -	2,190 3 6
£.	48,674 – 1	£.	48,674 – 1

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct, as far as this form will admit.

Daniel Sprague, Chairman.
John R. Hinde, Secretary.

PHŒNIX GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the Actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Phœnix Light and Coke Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 25th day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital to be Raised
		£.	£.	£.	£.
Capital raised under 5 Geo. 4, c. 78, limited dividend, under General Gas Act	27,000	20	- -	540,000	540,000
Capital raised under 27 & 28 Vict. c. 159, limited dividend, to 5 per cent.	- -	- -	- Stock -	144,000	144,000
Capital raised under 27 & 28 Vict. c. 159, limited dividend, to 7½ per cent.	- -	- -	Stock, 25 %	90,000	360,000
Bonds raised under 27 & 28 Vict. c. 159, limited dividend, to 5 per cent. — until 180,000 *l.* of 7½ per cent. stock has been paid up				- -	125,000
— after that, in addition				114,620	75,000
Total Capital £.				888,620	1,244,000

Balances brought forward.

	1865.	1866.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Fund against Leaseholds	8,444 10 3	9,644 2 9
Revenue Account, balance of Profit and Loss	10,758 1 11	7,555 6 6
Dividends uncalled for	119 4 3	119 4 3

2. REVENUE.—Account of Assets receivable, and of Liabilities incurred, during the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Sale of Gas:		
Town common gas, at 4*s.* per 1,000 feet	112,010 15 8	
Country common gas, at 4*s.* 3*d.* per 1,000 feet	30,077 13 –	
Public lamps and other contracts	28,940 13 1	
		171,029 1 9
Rental of meters (none charged)	nil.	
Sale of Residual Products:		
Coke	36,414 8 2	
Breeze	1,910 19 7	
Tar	6,300 8 1	
Ammonia	2,028 6 10	
		46,654 2 8
Miscellaneous receipts		659 14 6
Interest received		479 2 10
Total Receipts £.		218,822 1 9

EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Management:		
Directors, 2,000 *l.*; auditors, 100 *l.*	2,100 – –	
Salaries of secretary and clerks	2,765 2 6	
Collectors' commission	2,131 8 9	
Stationery, printing, and general charges	2,630 6 11	
		9,626 17
Manufacture of Gas:		
Coals, including carriage, dues, &c.	81,793 14 1	
Purifying materials	1,042 9 –	
Supervision and labour	16,661 12 10	
Salaries of engineer and superintendents	2,142 – –	
Tools and other implements	5,462 9 –	
Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises	7,450 12 2	
Rates, assessed taxes, and rents of manufactories	3,256 8 2	
Improvement and extension of premises and machinery (out of revenue)	nil.	
		117,809
Distribution, including Mains, Service Pipes, &c.:		
Ordinary repair and maintenance of the above	8,315 16 7	
Rates on mains and pipes	3,074 10 7	
Salaries of inspectors	2,137 16 7	
Wages of lamplighters	3,397 19 2	
Improvement and extension (out of revenue)	nil.	
		16,926
Meters:		
Restoring and replacing	– –	2,886
Additional (out of revenue)	nil.	
Bad debts and allowances		1,127
Law and Parliamentary charges		1,987
Interest on bonds		5,736
Balance, being shareholders' profit		62,722
Total Expenditure £.		218,822

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends declared on the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s.
Balance, being shareholders' profit, as above	62,722 4 7	Dividends on 540,000 *l.* share capital, at 10 per cent. per annum	54,000 –
Balance at Christmas 1865	10,758 1 11	Dividends on 144,000 *l.* capitalised stock, at 5 per cent. per ann.	7,200 –
		Dividends on 90,000 *l.* new stock, at 7½ per cent. per annum, for part of year only	4,725 –
		Balance	7,555 6
£.	73,480 6 6	£.	73,480 6

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

Richard Downs, } Auditors.
G. D. Gibbes, }

J. E. Johnson, Chairman.
Charles Pridden, Secretary.

RATCLIFF GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the Actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Ratcliff Gas Light and Coke Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
		£.	£.	£.	£. s. d.
Shares—4 Geo. 4, c. 98—The Ratcliff Gas Act, 1855 - - -	5,000	20	20	100,000	100,000 - -
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
				£. s. d.	
Borrowed monies - - - - - - - -			5 *l.* and 6 *l.*	14,000 - -	14,000 - -
				Total Capital - - - £.	114,000 - -

2. REVENUE.—Account of all Sums actually Received and Paid during the above Twelve Months, including Assets and Liabilities.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balances brought forward:		
Revenue account - - -	1,361 17 5	1,361 17 5
Sale of Gas:		
Common gas, at 4 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet - - - - - -	28,559 17 2	
Public lighting and under contracts	4,119 14 1	
	32,679 11 3	
Less bad debts and allowances - -	140 12 7	32,538 18 8
Rental of meters - - - - -	- -	9 13 2
Sale of old materials - - - -	- -	57 5 -
Sale of Residual Products:		
Coke - - - - - - -	5,946 14 5	
Breeze - - - - - -	271 15 11	
Tar - - - - - - -	999 14 7	
Ammoniacal liquid - - -	172 - -	
		7,390 4 11
Miscellaneous Receipts - - -		137 17 7
Total Receipt - - - - £.		41,495 16 9
Total Expenditure - - £.		40,783 1 -
Balance to Revenue next Year - - £.		712 15 9

EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Management:		
Directors' allowances - - - -	787 10 -	
Salary of secretary and clerks - -	785 - -	
Collectors' commission and pay - -	325 9 -	
Rent, rates, and taxes of offices (estimated)	62 13 2	
Stationery, printing, and general charges	491 16 2	
Payment to auditors - - - -	31 10 -	
		2,483 18 4
Manufacture of Gas:		
Coals, including carriage, dues, &c. -	17,242 12 6	
Purifying materials - - - -	602 4 2	
Supervision and labour - - - -	6,339 14 1	
Tools and other implements - - -	323 9 9	
Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises - - - - - -	1,483 10 4	
Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory -	1,278 13 4	
		27,270 4 2
Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
Ordinary repair and maintenance - -	369 1 1	
Meters:		
Restoring and replacing - - -	16 12 5	
		385 13 6
Law and Parliamentary charges - - - - - -		185 3 8
Interests paid from profits on borrowed capital - - -		458 1 4
Shareholders' profit or dividend - - - - - -		10,000 - -
Total Expenditure - - - £.		40,783 1 -

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends actually paid in respect of the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Shareholders' profit, as above - - - - - -	10,000 - -	Dividends on 100,000 *l.* capital stock, at 10 *l.* per cent. per annum, and income tax - - - - - - -	10,000 - -
£.	10,000 - -	£.	10,000 - -

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be corrrect.

13 March 1867.

J. H. Goodhart, Chairman.
H. J. Baddeley, Secretary.

SOUTH METROPOLITAN GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the Actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the South Metropolitan Gas Light Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
		£. s. d.	£.	£.	£.
Shares—5 Vict. c. 79	4,000	50 – –	50	200,000	
	4,000	12 10 –	–	22,950	
					222,950 – –
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
			£.	£. s. d.	
Payments in advance of calls	–	–	5	5,871 10 –	
					5,871 10 –
			Total Capital	£.	228,821 10 –

2. REVENUE.—Account of all Sums actually Received and Paid, including all Claims and Liabilities, for and on account of the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPTS:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balances brought forward:		
Reserve Fund	20,000 – –	
Revenue Account	6,084 4 1	
		26,084 4 1
Sale of Gas:		
Common gas, at 3s. 2d. and 3s. 4d. per 1,000 feet	59,915 4 –	
Public lighting and under contracts	8,659 14 10	
		68,574 18 10
Sale of old materials	– –	169 7 9
Sale of Residual Products:		
Coke	7,810 1 7	
Breeze	403 19 3	
Tar	1,427 4 9	
Ammoniacal liquid	544 19 6	
		21,194 3 4
Miscellaneous Receipts		1,614 10 7
Total Receipts	£.	117,637 4 7

EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Management:		
Directors' allowances	1,200 – –	
Salary of secretary and clerks	2,318 11 –	
Collectors' commission and pay	957 11 6	
Rent, rates, and taxes of offices	637 5 2	
Stationery and printing	330 5 8	
General charges	1,377 19 9	
Payment to auditors	100 – –	
		6,921 13
Manufacture of Gas:		
Coals, including carriage, dues, &c.	36,968 19 5	
Purifying materials and labour	551 10 11	
Supervision and labour	8,247 17 9	
Tools and other implements, including repair and maintenance of retorts, &c.	2,090 9 2	
		47,858 1
Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises	– –	833
Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory	– –	1,225
Supervision and labour for general purposes	– –	3,726
Distribution, including main pipes and service pipes	2,819 10 7	
Inspectors, lamplighters, rates on mains, &c.	3,871 18 –	
Meters:		
Restoring and replacing	2,842 8 5	
Additional		
		9,533 1
Law and Parliamentary charges	– –	420
Interest on payments in anticipation of call at 5 per cent.	– –	18
Reserve Fund for contingency, wear and tear, or other purposes	20,000 – –	
Revenue account, as per contra	6,084 4 1	26,084
Balance for shareholders' profit	– –	21,014
Total Expenditure	£.	117,637

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends Paid in the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£.
Balance for shareholders' profit, as above	21,014 8 3	Dividends on 222,950 *l.* capital stock, at 10 per cent. (less sums remaining outstanding)	20,682
Revenue Account, as per *contra*	6,084 4 1	Loss on sale of New 3 per Cents., and the failure of bankers	2,344
		Balance to next year's account	4,071
£.	27,098 12 4	£.	27,098

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

Thos. B. Simpson, Chairman.
Thomas Livesey, Secretary.

SURREY CONSUMERS' GAS COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the Actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st day of December 1866.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
		£.	£.	£.	£.
Shares—					
Under 17 & 18 Vict. c. 94	15,000	10	10	150,000	
Under 26 Vict. c. 37	10,000	10	5	49,998	
					199,998
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
				£.	
Borrowed monies under the authority of the above-mentioned Acts			5	42,000	42,000
Amount received in anticipation of calls					3,645
				Total Capital £.	245,643

REVENUE.—Account of all Sums Received and Paid, including Assets and Liabilities, during the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPT.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balance brought forward, Revenue Account		2,036 4 2	Management:		
			Directors' allowance	1,500 – –	
Sale of Gas:			Salaries of secretary and clerks	1,104 10 –	
			Collectors' commission and pay	637 3 7	
Common gas, at 4 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, less discount, varying with amount of consumption to Midsummer	23,895 19 3		Stationery, printing, and general charges	864 10 2	
			Payment to auditors	63 – –	
Ditto - ditto to Christmas, at 4 *s.*	22,728 15 7				4,169 3 9
			Manufacture of Gas:		
Public lighting under contracts	13,603 8 6		Coals, including carriage, dues, &c.	28,090 1 7	
		60,228 3 4	Purifying materials	592 12 –	
			Supervision and labour	10,144 10 1	
Sale of Residual Products:			Tools and other implements	279 6 8	
			Ordinary repair and maintenance of plant and premises	2,443 6 9	
Coke	10,789 11 6				41,549 17 1
Breeze	700 8 10		Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
Tar	2,131 – 7		Ordinary repair and maintenance	1,054 2 10	
Liquor	630 9 6				
		14,251 10 5	Meters:		
			Restoring and replacing	289 5 1	
Miscellaneous receipts	37 17 9	37 17 9	Additional	177 3 8	
					1,520 11 7
			Rents, rates, and taxes		2,243 9 5
			Bad debts and allowances		504 15 1
			Law charges		991 3 11
			Interest paid from profits on borrowed capital, at 5 per cent. per annum		2,120 16 8
			Balance for shareholders' profit		23,453 18 2
Total Receipts £.		76,553 15 8	Total Expenditure £.		76,553 15 8

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends actually Paid in the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Balance for shareholders' profit, as above	23,453 15 8	Dividends (Midsummer) on 199,989 *l.* capital, at 10 per cent. per annum	9,999 11 –
		Dividends (Christmas) on 199,998 *l.* capital, at 9 per cent. per annum	9,000 – –
		Balance of arrears of dividends	3,000 – –
		Balance to next year's account	1,454 7 2
£.	23,453 15 8	£.	23,453 18 2

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct

23 May 1867.

Thomas Pocock, Chairman.
Wm. P. Boddy, Secretary.

WESTERN GAS LIGHT COMPANY (LIMITED).

ANNUAL STATEMENT of Accounts, showing the Actual State and Condition of the Concerns of the Western Gas Light Company (Limited), for the Twelve Months ended the 30th day of June 1863.

1. CAPITAL.—State of the Account at the end of the above Twelve Months.

Statute or Authority under which raised.	Number of Shares.	Amount per Share.	Paid up per Share.	Total Paid up.	Total Capital.
Shares:		£.	£.	£.	£.
Joint Stock Companies Acts and the Regulations of the Company	20,000	10	10	200,000	
	10,000	10	5	50,000	
	10,000	10	3	30,000	
	20,000	10	1	20,000	
					300,000
			Rate per Cent.	Amount.	
			£.	£.	
Borrowed monies			4½	19,960	
			4¾	12,000	
			5	13,500	
					45,460
Profits capitalised					nil.
				Total Capital £.	345,460

2. REVENUE.—Account for the above Twelve Months.

RECEIPT:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balances brought forward:			Management:		
Reserve Fund	66 6 11		Directors' allowances	1,250 – –	
Revenue	– – –	277 – 8	Salary of secretary, clerks, and office-keeper	2,124 5 –	
Sale of Gas:			Collectors' commission and pay	1,142 16 10	
Cannel gas, at 5 s. 6 d. per 1,000 feet – 82,802 9 11			Rents, rates, and taxes of offices	321 17 7	
Less bad debts – 508 13 2			Stationery, printing, and general charges	915 1 5	
	82,293 16 9		Payment to auditors	120 – –	
Public lighting and under contracts 11,889 19 11					5,874
Less lamp-lighting and repairing – 1,910 – –			Manufacture of Gas:		
	9,979 19 11		Coals, including carriage, dues, &c.	46,162 8 6	
		92,273 16 8	Purifying materials	227 10 –	
Rental of meters	– –	2,637 13 7	Water, oil, tallow, stokers' gloves, cartage, &c.	1,229 19 10	
Sale of old materials	– –	34 12 3	Supervision and labour	10,024 15 5	
Residual Products:			Tools and other implements	483 11 5	
Coke	5,120 9 10		Ordinary repair and maintenance of premises	3,810 17 –	
Breeze	2,836 7 9		Rents, rates, and taxes of manufactory	964 7 10	
Tar	3,364 5 8				62,903 1
		11,321 3 3	Distribution, including Service Mains, Pipes, &c.:		
			Ordinary repair and maintenance	920 6 11	
			Meters:		
			Restoring and replacing	1,010 18 7	
			Salaries of inspectors, surveyors, &c.	1,379 10 4	
					3,310 1
			Interest paid from profits, on borrowed capital, at 4½, 4¾, and 5 per cent.	1,910 8 –	
			On payments in anticipation of calls at 4½ per cent., and on temporary loans	294 17 4	
					2,205
Total Receipt		106,544 6 5	Law and Parliamentary charges		793 1
Total Expenditure		104,282 13 –	Leasehold redemption fund		28
			Shareholders' profit		29,166 1
Balance to Revenue next Year £.		2,261 13 5	Total Expenditure £.		104,282 1

3. DIVIDENDS.—Account of all Dividends for the above Twelve Months.

	£. s. d.		£.
Shareholders' profit, as above	29,166 13 4	Distribution on share capital at the average rate of 9 l. 18 s. 10 d. per cent.	29,166 1

We have examined the above accounts, and certify them to be correct.

F. W. Russell, Chairman.
S. Barber, Secretary.

Appendix, No. 2.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *H. Brothers*, 3 June 1867. Appendix, No. 2.

EQUITABLE GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

DIVIDENDS ACTUALLY PAID.

——	Half-Year.		Half-Year.		Year.	New Shares.		Year.
						Half-Year.	Half-Year.	
		per Cent.		*per Cent.*	*per Cent.*	*per Cent.*	*per Cent.*	*per Cent.*
1840	June - -	nil	December -	nil	nil			
1841	June - -	nil	December -	nil	nil			
1842	June - -	nil	December -	2	2			
1843	June - -	4	December -	4	4			
1844	June - -	4	December -	4	4			
1845	June - -	4½	December -	4½	4½			
1846	June - -	4½	December -	4½	4½			
1847	June - -	5	December -	5	5			
1848	June - -	5	December -	nil	2½			
1849	June - -	nil	December -	2½	1¼			
1850	June - -	3	December -	2½	2¾			
1851	June - -	2½	December -	2½	2½			
1852	June - -	2½	December -	2½	2½			
1853	June - -	2½	December -	3	2¾			
1854	June - -	4	December -	4	4			
1855	June - -	1	December -	2½	1¾			
1856	June - -	3½	December -	4½	4			
1857	June - -	4½	December -	4½	4½			
1858	June - -	5	December -	5	5			
1859	June - -	6	December -	6	6			
1860	June - -	7	December -	11	9	10	10	10
1861	June - -	14½	December -	16	15¼	10	10	10
1862	June - -	14	December -	15	14½	10	10	10
1863	June - -	15*l.* 10*s.*	December -	13*l.* 8*s.*	14*l.* 9*s.*	10	10	10
1864	June - -	17	December -	16½	16¾	10	10	10
1865	June - -	17½	December -	10	13¾	10	10	10
1866	June - -	10	December -	10	10	10	10	10

Appendix, No. 3.

Appendix, No. 3.

Monday, 27th May 1867.

As the Committee were breaking up this afternoon, and after the Counsel had left the room, Mr. Webster said he was about to ask the Committee to order some returns from the Companies. The Chairman then inquired if the Companies had had notice, and upon his saying that he believed not, the Chairman directed that notice be given at once, and the application be made to-morrow.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.—Session 1867.

Required:—

1. The Capital of each of the Companies at intervals of, say Five Years, for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing Share and Loan Capital.

2. Maximum Statutory Dividend (if any) on the whole Capital, or on any part or parts thereof of each Company.

3. The actual Dividend paid by each Company for each of Ten Years prior to 1860, and for each subsequent Year down to the present time.

4. The Amount set aside by each Company in each Year in the same period as Reserve.

5. The Amount paid by each Company for Damages in each Year in the same period.

6. Price per One Thousand Feet of Gas for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing between Common and Cannel.

7. Price per Street Lamp per Annum charged by each Company for the same period.

8. The Accounts for 1866, under the Act of 1860.

LIST of Gas Companies subject to the Provisions of the Metropolis Gas Act, 1860.

1. Chartered Gas Company.
2. City of London Gas Light Company.
3. Commercial Gas Company.
4. Equitable Gas Light Company.
5. Great Central Gas Consumers' Company.
6. Imperial Gas Light Company.
7. Independent Gas Light and Coke Company.
8. London Gas Light Company.
9. Phœnix Gas Light Company.
10. Ratcliff Gas Light and Coke Company.
11. South Metropolitan Gas Light Company.
12. Surrey Consumers' Gas Company.
13. Western Gas Light Company.

CHARTERED GAS COMPANY.

EAR.	No. 1. Capital, at Intervals of Five Years, for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing Share and Loan.	No. 2. Maximum Statutory Dividend (if any).	No. 3. Actual Dividend Paid for Ten Years prior to 1860, and subsequently to present time.	No. 4. Amount set aside as Reserve. (Contingency Fund).	No. 5. Amount Paid as Damages (irrespective of Amount Paid for Damages on Works).	No. 6. Price per 1,000 Feet.		No. 7. Price per Street Lamp.	No. 8. Accounts for 1866.
	Share Capital only £.		*Per Cent.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	*Cannel.*	*Common.*		
847	660,000	Nil	- -	- -	- -	- -	7 *s.*		
848	- -	„	- -	- -	- -	- -	7 *s.* & 6 *s.*		
849	- -	„	- -	- -	- -	- -	6 *s.*		
850	- -	„	6	1,000 - -	25 - -	- -	6 *s.* & 5 *s.*		
851	- -	„	4½	- nil -	322 6 1	5 *s.* 6 *d.*	4 *s.* 6 *d.* & 4 *s.*		
852	660,000	„	4	- „ -	78 1 3	- „ -	- „ -		
853	- -	„	4	- „ -	20 - -	6 *s.*	- „ -		
854	- -	„	4½	- „ -	91 9 -	- „ -	- „ -		
855	- -	„	6½	- „ -	119 12 3	- „ -	- „ -		
856	- -	„	6½	- „ -	27 - -	- „ -	- „ -		
857	660,000	„	6	- „ -	41 3 -	- „ -	- „ -	*See* p. 304.	*See* Appendix No.
858	- -	„	7¾	- „ -	144 15 6	- „ -	- „ -		
859	- -	„	8	- „ -	13 18 -	- „ -	- „ -		
860	- -	10 per cent., and back dividends for six years previously.	9	524 14 6	39 13 4	- „ -	- „ -		
861	720,000	„	7⅜	541 - 8	34 19 8	- „ -	4 *s.* 6 *d.*		
862	720,000	„	10	64 9 6	10 - -	- „ -	- „ -		
863	- -	„	11	482 4 2	129 11 10	- „ -	- „ -		
864	- -	„	11¾		159 2 6	- „ -	- „ -		
865	- -	„	11¾	449 13 9	1,428 - 11	- „ -	- „ -		
866	810,000	„	8¾	376 3 2	987 10 1	5 *s.* 6 *d.*	4 *s.*		

J. O. Phillips, Secretary.

CHARTERED GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

No. 7.—Price per Street Lamp per Annum charged by the Chartered Gas Company, in the following Years.

PARISH.	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	—
	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s.	
St. Marylebone -	3 11	3 11	3 11	3 11	3 11 –	–	–	–	–	–	3 – –	3 10 –	3 10 –	3 10 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	Newcastle gas.
St. Anne - -	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	3 13 6	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	- ditto.
St. Giles - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	- ditto.
St. George - -	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 12 6	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	3 15 6	3 15 6	Cannel gas.
St. James - -	4 10	4 10	4 10	4 4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	3 15 6	3 15 6	- ditto.
St. John - -	–	–	–	–	3 10 –	3 10 –	3 10 –	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	4 7 6	4 7 6	4 7 6	4 5 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	4 1 –	3 15 6	3 15 6	- ditto.
St. Pancras * - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4 4 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	5 1 –	5 1 –	Newcastle gas.
The City of London	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4 –	4 4 –	3 12 –	2 19 6	2 19 6	2 19 6	2 19 6	2 19 6	2 19 6	4 8 –	4 8 –	4 8 –	4 8 –	5 9 6	5 9 6	5 9 6[1]	5 1 –	[1] To 1 Feb., ditto.
Ditto - -	2 14	2 14	2 14	2 14	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 10 –	–	–	–	–	–	4 8 –	–	–	–	5 9 6	–	–	5 1 –[2]	–	[2] From 1 Feb., ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	–	3 12 –	2 19 6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Newcastle gas.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	–	2 10 –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	- ditto.
Shoreditch - -	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 11 –	4 4 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	- ditto.
Board of Works -	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4 –	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	4 2 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	5 9 6	5 9 6	4 4 –	4 4 –	4 4 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	2 14	2 14	2 14	2 14	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	3 6 –	3 6 –	3 6 –	4 2 6	4 2 6	–	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	3 17 6	–	–	–	–	–	–	4 2 –	4 10 –	–	–	5 9 6	–	4 4 –	–	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	2 14 –	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 14 –	3 6 –	–	–	4 2 6	–	–	–	–	–	- ditto.
St. James, Clerkenwell	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4 –	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	5 – –	5 – –	5 – –	5 – –	5 – –	5 – –	5 – –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	2 14	2 14	2 14	2 14	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	2 14 –	3 10 –	3 10 –	3 10 –	3 10 –	3 10 –	3 7 –	3 7 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	3 17 6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5 – –	2 10 –	2 10 –	2 10 –	2 10 –	2 10 –	2 10 –	2 10 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	2 14 –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3 10 –	–	–	–	–	5 – –	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 10 –	–	–	–	–	3 7 –	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 10 –	–	–	- ditto.
St. Luke, Old-street	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	3 16 –	5 9 6	5 9 6	5 9 6	5 1 –	5 1 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 6 –	2 18 –	2 18 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5 9 6	2 2 –	2 2 –	2 2 –	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 6 –	–	–	5 1 –	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 2 –	–	–	2 18 –	–	–	- ditto.
St. Mary, Islington†	5 –	5 –	5 –	5 –	5 – –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	4 10 –	5 6 –	5 6 6	5 5 6	5 6 6	4 18 –	4 18 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	4 10 –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5 6 6	–	–	–	4 18 –	–	–	- ditto.
Norton Folgate -	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4	4 4 –	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	3 17 6	4 2 –	4 2 –	4 2 –	4 8 –	4 8 –	5 9 6	5 9 6	5 9 6	5 9 6	5 1 –	5 1 –	- ditto.
Ditto - -	3 3	3 3	3 3	3 3	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	3 3 –	–	–	–	5 1 –	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	3 17 6	–	–	–	–	4 2 –	–	–	4 8 –	–	5 9 6	–	–	–	–	–	–	- ditto.
Ditto - -	–	–	–	–	3 3 –	–	–	–	–	3 3 –	–	–	3 3 –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	- ditto.

* St. Pancras chose a larger burner in 1866.

† St. Mary, Islington, paint and repair their own lamps.

The charges are regulated by the size of the burners and the quality of the gas consumed, and are inclusive of the sum of 15 *s.* per lamp for lighting, extinguishing, cleansing, and repairs.

CITY OF LONDON GASLIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

1.—Capital for the Twenty Years, 1846 to 1866.

	Share.	Loan.
	£.	£.
1846	200,000	—
1851	300,000	—
1856	300,000	16,580
1861	360,476	43,805
1866	394,588	59,800

2.—Maximum Statutory Dividend, &c., &c.

1846 to 1859.—No statute for limitation of dividend.

1859 to 1866.—Under the City of London Gas Company's Act, 1859:—

Maximum, 10 per cent. per annum on - - - - - £. 300,000
And 4 per cent. per annum on - - - - - 100,000

3.—The Actual Dividend Paid, &c. (per Cent. per Annum).

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
1850	4	10	—	1860	7	—	—	and	4	—	—
1851	4	—	—	1861	7	—	—	„	4	—	—
1852	4	—	—								
1853	3	10	—	1862	9	—	—	„	4	—	—
1854	3	—	—	1863	9	—	—	„	4	—	—
1855	2	15	—								
1856	2	15	—	1864	10	—	—	„	4	—	—
1857	4	—	—	1865	10	—	—	„	4	—	—
1858	4	10	—	And arrears for 1860	3	—	—				
1859	7	—	—								
And on 100,000 *l.*	4	—	—	1866	9	—	—	„	4	—	—

4.—The Amount set aside, &c.

As a Contingent Fund:

	£.	s.	d.
In 1858	5,000	—	—
In 1859	5,000	—	—
	10,000	—	—
Which has been reduced by Parliamentary and other extraordinary expenses	4,639	9	9
£.	5,360	10	3

5.—The Amount Paid for Damages, &c.

1860.—Explosion in Clerkenwell - - - - - £. 476 10. 6.

6.—Price per 1,000 Feet, &c.

	Common. s.	Common. d.		Cannel. s.	Cannel. d.
1850 to 1861	4	—	1854 to 1865	6	—
1862 to 1865	4	6			
1866	4	—	1866	5	6

7.—Price per Street Lamp, &c.

Amount charged for street lamps during the last 20 years, 4*l.* 4*s.* and 4*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*
Smaller burners (varying in size), from 1*l.* 1*s.* to 3*l.* 3*s.*

8.—The Accounts for 1866 (*see* Appendix, No. 1).

COMMERCIAL GAS COMPANY.

Year ending the 30th June	CAPITAL. Shares.	Loans.	Total.	Maximum Statutory Dividend on the whole of the Capital.	Actual Dividend Paid each Year.	Amount set aside each Year.	Amount Paid for Damages.	Price per 1,000 Cubic Feet of Gas.	Price per Street Lamp
	£.	£.	£.			£.			
1846	69,158	–	69,158	–	5 per Cent.	–	The damages incurred by the Company are within 1,000 *l.* Other damages have been met by contractors, especially the explosion in Church-street, Bethnal Green, in 1862, which amounted to over 6,000 *l.*	6 *s.*	Prior to 1865, the price varied from 4 *l.* 4 *s.* to 5 *s.* 6 *d.*, according to locality. Since that date, 4 *l.* 6 *s.* 3 *d.* per lamp; in this price, lighting, extinguishing, cleaning, and repairing are included.
1847	–	–	–	–	5 and 5 ½ per Cent.	–		,,	
1848	–	–	–	–	5 ½ per Cent.	–		,,	
1849	–	–	–	–	6 per Cent.	–		,,	
1850	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		6 *s.* and 5 *s.*	
1851	100,251	–	100,251	–	ditto	–		5 *s.* and 4 *s.*	
1852	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		4 *s.*	
1853	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1854	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1855	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1856	227,941	72,300	300,241	10 per Cent.	ditto	–		,,	
1857	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1858	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1859	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1860	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1861	289,264	41,300	330,564	–	10 per Cent.	–		4 *s.* and 4 *s.* 5 *d.*	
1862	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		4 *s.* 5 *d.*	
1863	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1864*	–	–	–	–	ditto	–		,,	
1865	–	–	–	–	ditto	3,590		4 *s.* 5 *d.* and 4 *s.*	
1866	437,220	500	437,720	–	ditto	4,727		4 *s.*	

* Payment on account of arrears of dividend closed with the half-year ending December 1864, when the price of gas was reduced.

Stepney, 30 May 1867.

G. Jaques, Secretary.

EQUITABLE GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

RETURN ordered by the Committee on the "Metropolis Gas Bill of 1867," on Monday, 27th May 1867.

Year.	Capital.		Maximum Statutory Dividend.	Actual Dividend Paid.		Amount set aside for Reserve.	Amount Paid for Damages.	Price per 1,000 Cubic Feet.		Price for Street Lamps.*
	Shares.	Debentures.		Old Shares.	New Shares.			Common.	Cannel.	
	£.	£.								
1847	–	–	10 per cent.	–	–	none	none	7 *s.*	– – –	3 *l.* 5 *s.* to 5 *l.*
1848	–	–	,,	–	–	,,	,,	7 *s.* and 6 *s.*	– – –	,,
1849	–	–	,,	–	–	,,	,,	6 *s.*	– – –	,,
1850	–	–	,,	2¾	–	,,	,,	6 *s.* and 5 *s.*	– – –	,,
1851	200,000	45,600	,,	2½	–	,,	,,	5 *s.*, 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, and 4 *s.*	6 *s.* and 5 *s.* 6 *d.*	2 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.* to 5 *l.*
1852	–	–	,,	2¼	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.* and 4 *s.*	6 *s.* and 5 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,
1853	–	–	,,	2¾	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.* and 4 *s.*	6 *s.* and 5 *s.* 6 *d.*	2 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *l.* 10 *s.*
1854	–	–	,,	4	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1855	–	–	,,	1¾	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	3 *l.* to 4 *l.* 10 *s.*
1856	200,000	69,300	,,	4	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1857	–	–	,,	4¼	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	3 *l.* 10 *s.* to 4 *l.* 10 *s.*
1858	–	–	,,	5	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1859	–	–	,,	6	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1860	–	–	,,	9	–	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1861	240,000	40,400	,,	15¼	10	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1862	–	–	,,	14½	10	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1863	–	–	,,	14 9/9	10	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1864	–	–	,,	16¾	10	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	6 *s.*	,,
1865	–	–	,,	13¾	10	,,	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.* and 4 *s.*	6 *s.* and 5 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,
1866	300,000	none	,,	10	10	,,	,,	4 *s.*	5 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,
				All sums paid above 10 per cent. were for back dividends.						

* The charge for public lights includes lighting, extinguishing, repairing and painting, and varies according to the size of burner and consumption of gas.

GREAT CENTRAL GAS CONSUMERS' COMPANY.

(Established 1850.)

Year.	1. Capital.		2. Maximum Statutory Dividend.	3. Dividend Paid.		4. Reserve Fund.			5. Amount Paid for Damages.	6. Common Gas.	7. Public Lamps, each per Annum, including Lighting, Cleaning, and Repairing.		
	Share.	Loan.		Current.	Arrears.	Reserved.	Appropriated for Dividend.	Appropriated for Repairs.			Five Feet Bats.	Three Feet Bats.	Two Feet Cockspurs.
	£.	£.	Per cent. p'annum.	Per cent. p'annum.	Per cent. p'annum.	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£.		£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*
1850	–	–	10	–	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–			
1851	–	–	,,	8¾	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–	3 17 6	– –	2 13 –
1852	150,000	47,600	,,	6¼	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	4 *s.*			
1853	–	–	,,	7½	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–			
1854	–	–	,,	8	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–			
1855	150,000	66,000	,,	8	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–	3 3 –	—	—
1856	–	–	,,	8	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–			
1857	–	–	,,	5½	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–			
1858	–	–	,,	5½	–	– –	– –	– –	– –	–	4 4 –	—	—
1859	–	–	,,	5	–	3,600 – –	– –	– –	– –	–			
1860	172,100	66,000	,,	6	–	2,498 – 6	– –	– –	– –	–			
1861	–	–	,,	6	–	4,606 7 1	– –	– –	– –	4 *s.* 6 *d.* Michaelms.	4 10 –	3 – –	—
1862	–	–	,,	9	5½	2,634 11 5	4,000 – –	787 15 11	6,900	4 *s.* 6 *d.*			
1863	–	–	,,	10	3½	– –	– –	2,478 9 1	4,750	,,	5 6 –	3 10 –	—
1864	–	–	,,	10	9	– –	3,000 – –	2,445 9 11	4,750	,,	5 8 6	3 12 6	—
1865	200,000	66,000	,,	10	6	– –	617 8 1	9 16 –	4,750	,,	5 8 6	—	—
1866	–	–	,,	10	–	– –	– –	– –	4,750	4 *s.*	4 17 6	—	—
					£.	13,338 19 –	7,617 8 1	5,721 10 11	– –	4 *s.*			

For the Accounts for 1866, *see* Appendix, No. 1.

Appendix, No 3.

IMPERIAL GAS COMPANY.

No. 1.—RETURN of Capital of the Imperial Gas Company.

On 31st December	Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	TOTAL.
1846 - - -	500,000	61,000	561,000
1851 - - -	620,000	50,500	670,500
1856 - - -	812,500	135,500	948,000
1861 - - -	1,143,445	125,300	1,268,745
1866 - - -	1,385,256	429,500	1,814,756

No. 2.—RETURN of the Maximum Statutory Dividend on the Capital of the Imperial Gas Company.

Ten per Cent. on - - - - - - - -	£.1,300,000
Seven per Cent. on - - - - - - - -	325,000

No. 3.—RETURN of the Actual Dividend paid by the Imperial Gas Company for each of Ten Years prior to 1860, and for each subsequent Year down to the present time.

For the Year 1850 - -	£.54,450, being at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum on the Capital raised,		
1851 - -	55,350 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1852 - -	57,150 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1853 - -	59,055 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1854 - -	78,276 - -	ditto - -	10 per cent.
1855 - -	73,125 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1856 - -	79,625 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1857 - -	81,249 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1558 - -	82,875 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1859 - -	84,500 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1860 - -	94,250 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1861 - -	108,875 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1862 - -	117,000 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1863 - -	117,000 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1864 - -	120,000 - -	ditto - -	ditto,
1865 - -	130,000 - -	ditto - -	ditto.
1866 - -	130,308, being at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on £.1,300,000, and 7 per cent. on remainder of capital.		

IMPERIAL GAS COMPANY—*continued.* Appendix, No. 3.

No. 4.—RETURN of the Amount set aside as Reserve by the Imperial Gas Company for each of Ten Years prior to 1860, and for each subsequent Year down to the present time.

	Reserve Fund under Gas Works Clauses Act.	Contingency Fund under Company's Special Act, 1854.
	£.	£.
1851	—	—
1852	—	—
1853	—	—
1854	—	1,500
1855	—	3,000
1856	—	3,000
1857	—	3,000
1858	—	3,000
1859	—	3,000
1860	—	3,000
1861	—	3,000
1862	—	3,000
1863	18,604	3,000
1864	39,567	3,000
1865	24,771	3,000
1866	—	3,000
	82,942	37,500
Add for dividends received on Consols	2,840	6,061
	85,782	43,561
Transferred to dividend account to make up the prescribed rate of 1866	7,809	—
Transferred to revenue account in the years 1861 and 1866 to meet unforeseen expenses	—	6,091
Amount of the Funds on 31st December 1866 £.	77,973	37,470

No. 5.—RETURN of the Amount paid by the Imperial Gas Company for Damages in each Year from 1850 down to the present time.

	£.	s.	d.
1850	—		
1851	—		
1852	—		
1853	—		
1854	—		
1855	—		
1856	—		
1857	622	13	—
1858	—		
1859	—		
1860	295	10	6
1861	100	—	—
1862	68	—	6
1863	35	10	9
1864	12	15	—
1865	892	10	—
1866	364	16	1

No. 6.—RETURN for the Imperial Gas Company of the Price per 1,000 feet of Gas for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing between Common and Cannel.

1847.	Common gas,	7 *s.*	per	1,000 cubic feet.
1848.	,,	6 *s.*	,,	,,
1849.	,,	6 *s.*	,,	,,
1850.	,,	6 *s.*	,,	,,
1851.	,,	5 *s.*	,,	,,
1852.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1853.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1854.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1855.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1856.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1857.	Common gas,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	per	1,000 cubic feet.
1858.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1859.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1860.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1861.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1862.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1863.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1864.	,,	4 *s.* 6 *d.*	,,	,,
1865.	,,	4 *s.*	,,	,,
1866.	,,	4 *s.*	,,	,,

7.—PRICES charged for Street Lamps to Parishes supplied by the Imperial Gas Company.

YEAR.	4-FEET BURNER.		5-FEET BURNER.																Average Price per Lamp, for 5-Feet Burner.	Average per 1,000 Feet of Gas Consumed.
	Marylebone.	Hampstead.	Hampstead.	Paddington.	St. George, Hanover-square.	Crown Lands.	Pancras.	Bloomsbury.	St. Andrew and St. George the Martyr.	Clerkenwell.	Islington.	Highgate.	Hornsey.	Stoke Newington.	Hackney.	Bethnal Green.				
	Price per Annum, includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Annum, includes 19 *s.* 6 *d.* for use of Lanterns, Lighting, and Repairs.	Price per Annum, includes 19 *s.* 6 *d.* for use of Lanterns, Lighting, and Repairs.	Price per Ann., includes 6 *s.* for use of Posts and Columns, and 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Ann., includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Ann., includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Annum, includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Ann., includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Ann., includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Ann., includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Annum, includes 13 *s.* 9 *d.* for Lighting.	Price per Annum, includes 13 *s.* 9 *d.* for Lighting.	Price per Annum, includes 13 *s.* 9 *d.* for Lighting.	Price per Annum, includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Ann., includes 17 *s.* for Lighting and Repairs.	Price per Annum, includes 13 *s.* 9 *d.* for Lighting.				
	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.*	£. *s.*	£. *s.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.*	£. *s.*	£. *s.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.*	£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
1848	3 7 6	- -	5 15 6	4 15	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	6 6	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	4 14 -	5 5 -	5 3	4 - -	4 16 -	3 9
1849	3 7 6	- -	5 15 6	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	6 6	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	4 14 -	5 5 -	5 3	4 - -	4 14 7	3 8·2
1850	3 7 6	- -	5 15 6	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	6 6	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	4 14 -	5 5 -	5 3	4 - -	4 14 5	3 8·1
1851	3 7 6	- -	5 15 6	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	5 5	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	4 14 -	5 5 -	5 3	4 - -	4 14 5	3 6·2
1852	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	5 5	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	4 14 -	5 5 -	5 3	4 - -	4 14 -	3 6
1853	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	5 5	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	4 14 -	5 12 6	5 3	4 - -	4 11 5	3 5·3
1854	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	5 5	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	6 6 -	5 12 6	5 3	4 - -	4 14 6	3 5·4
1855	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	5 5	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	6 6 -	5 12 6	5 -	4 - -	4 13 11	3 5·2
1856	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	-	4 16 6	5 -	5 5	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	6 6 -	5 12 6	5 -	4 - -	4 13 7	3 5·1
1857	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	5 -	4 16 6	5 -	4 15	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	6 6 -	5 12 6	5 -	4 - -	4 12 6	3 5·7
1858	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	5 -	4 16 -	5 -	4 15	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	5 15 -	5 12 6	5 -	4 - -	4 14 7	3 5·7
1859	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	5 -	4 16 -	5 -	4 15	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	5 15 -	5 12 6	5 -	4 - -	4 14 7	3 5·7
1860	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	5 -	4 16 -	5 -	4 15	4 10	4 12 6	5 5 -	5 15 -	5 12 6	5 -	4 - -	4 14 7	3 5·7
1861	3 7 6	- -	5 10 -	4 4	5 5	5 -	4 16 -	5 -	4 15	5 -	4 12 6	5 5 -	5 15 -	5 - -	5 -	4 - -	4 14 8	3 5·8
1862	3 7 6	4 14 -	- -	4 4	5 5	5 -	4 16 -	5 -	4 15	5 -	4 12 6	5 5 -	5 15 -	5 - -	5 -	4 - -	4 13 9	3 5·8
1863	3 7 6	4 14 -	- -	5 2	5 5	5 -	4 16 -	5 -	4 15	5 -	4 12 6	5 5 -	5 15 -	5 - -	5 -	4 - -	4 16 4	3 6·9
1864	3 7 6	4 14 -	- -	5 2	5 5	5 -	4 16 -	5 -	4 15	5 -	4 12 6	5 5 -	5 5 -	5 - -	5 -	4 - -	4 16 4	3 6·9
1865	3 7 6	4 6 -	- -	5 -	4 14	4 14	4 14 -	4 14	4 14	4 14	4 11 -	4 18 -	4 18 -	4 14 -	4 14	4 - -	4 13 3	3 5·5
1866	3 7 6	4 6 -	- -	5 -	4 14	4 14	4 14 -	4 14	4 14	4 14	4 11 -	4 18 -	4 18 -	4 14 -	4 14	4 - -	4 13 3	3 5·5
1867	3 7 6	4 6 -	- -	5 -	4 14	4 14	4 7 -	4 14	4 14	4 14	4 11 -	4 18 -	4 18 -	4 14 -	4 14	4 - -	4 11 3	3 4·6
Less charges as above	- 17 -	- 19 6	- -	1 3	- 17	- 17	- 17 -	- 17	- 17	- 17	- 13 9	- 13 9	- 13 9	- 17 -	- 17	- 13 9		
Net for Gas, for 1867	2 10 6	3 6 6	- -	3 17	3 17	3 17	3 10 -	3 17	3 17	3 17	3 17 3	4 4 3	4 4 3	3 17 -	3 17	3 6 3		
Yielding per 1,000	2 *s.* 11¼ *d.*	3 *s.* 10½ *d.* Outlying District.	- -	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 3 *d.*	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 11 *d.* Outlying District.	3 *s.* 11 *d.* Outlying District.	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 7 *d.*	3 *s.* 1½ *d.*		

Appendix, No. 3.

INDEPENDENT GAS COMPANY.

Nos. 1 and 2.—Share and Loan Capital.

		£.	
Christmas 1846 -	Share capital - - - -	99,585	No limit to dividend
„ 1851 -	Ditto - - - - -	100,000	- - ditto.
	Debentures - - - -	11,500	
„ 1856 -	Share capital - - - -	112,000	- - ditto.
	Debentures - - - -	23,400	
„ 1861 -	Share capital - - - -	120,000	10 per cent.
	Debentures - - - -	30,000	
„ 1866 -	Share capital - - - -	120,000	10 „
	Ditto - new - - -	37,500	7½ „
	Ditto - capitalised profits -	30,000	5 „
	Debentures - - - -	18,000	

No. 3.—Dividends paid in each Year.

1846 -	9¾ per cent.
1847, 1848, 1849, 1850 -	9¾ per cent.
1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856 -	8¾ per cent.
1857, 1858, 1859 -	8¾ per cent.
1860 -	11¼ per cent.
1861 -	10 per cent. and 1¼ per cent. back dividend.
1862 -	10 per cent. and 1¼ - ditto.
1863 -	10 per cent. and 2½ - ditto.
1864 -	10 per cent. and 2½ - ditto.
1865 -	10 per cent. on old stock.
1866 -	7⅓ per cent. on new shares.
	5 per cent. on capitalised profits.

No. 4.—Amounts placed to Contingency or Reserve Fund.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
In 1846 the amount of the Contingent Fund was - - - - - - -	1,199 7 5		
Added in 1847 - - - - - - -	- nil.		
1848 - - - - - - -	1,555 5 4		
1849 - - - - - - -	- nil.		
1850 - - - - - - -	- „		
1851 - - - - - - -	234 8 9		
1852 - - - - - - -	- nil.		
1853 - - - - - - -	- „ -	Decreased by	900 6 1
1854 - - - - - - -	- „ -	- ditto -	80 - -
1855 - - - - - - -	- „ -	- ditto -	25 8 8
1856 - - - - - - -	- „		
1857 - - - - - - -	- „		
1858 - - - - - - -	2,221 1 4		
1859 - - - - - - -	700 - -		
1860 - - - - - - -	- nil -	Decreased by	3,988 10 -
1861 - - - - - - -	64 15 8		
1862 - - - - - - -	680 - -		
1863 - - - - - - -	9,070 6 8		
1864 - - - - - - -	7,263 19 4		
1865 - - - - - - -	- nil.		
1866 - - - - - - -	- „		

Present amount of Reserve Fund - - - 18,000 *l.*

No. 5.—Amount paid for Damages.

	£. s. d.
In 1866 - - - - - - - - - - -	300 18 6

Appendix, No. 3.

INDEPENDENT GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

No. 6.—Price of Common Gas supplied.

	s.	d.	
1846	6	–	per 1,000 cubic feet.
1850	5	–	ditto.
1851	4	–	ditto.
1854	4	6	ditto.
1863	4	–	ditto.
1865, Lady Day	3	9	ditto.
„ Michaelmas	3	4	ditto.

No. 7.—Charge for Street Lamps per Annum.

		£.	s.	d.
1846 to 1864	Batswings	4	–	–
	Mediums	2	10	–
1865 and 1866	Batswings	3	17	6
	Mediums	2	10	–

Including, lighting, cleaning, and repairs.

THE LONDON GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

No. 1.—Capital at Intervals of Five Years.

		£.			£.
1846	Shares	359,633	1861	Shares	550,762
	Loans	135,000		Loans	100,930
1851	Shares	466,410			
	Loans	97,775	1866	Shares	617,475
1856	Shares	512,817		Loans	108,155
	Loans	112,575			

No. 2.—Maximum Statutory Dividend.

5, 6, and 10 per Cent.

No. 3.—Actual Dividend paid, &c.

Year.	1st Preference, 6 per Cent.	2nd Preference, 6 per Cent.	3rd Preference, 6 per Cent.	Ordinary.
1847	–	3 per cent.	3 per cent.	1¼ per cent.
1848	–	–	–	nil.
1849	6 per cent.	–	–	nil.
1850	–	–	–	nil.
1851	–	–	–	nil.
1852	–	–	–	nil.
1853	–	–	–	nil.
1854	–	–	–	nil.
1855	–	–	–	nil.
1856	–	–	–	nil.
1857	–	6 per cent.	–	nil.
1858	–	–	6 per cent.	3 per cent.
1859	—	—	—	—
1860	–	–	–	5 & 6 per cent.
1861	–	–	–	7 per cent.
1862	—	—	—	—
1863	–	–	–	10 per cent.
1864	—	—	—	—
1865	—	—	—	—
1866	—	—	—	—

No. 4.—Amounts set aside as Reserve.

Nil.

THE LONDON GAS LIGHT COMPANY—*continued.*

No. 5.—Amount paid for Damages, &c.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
1847	—	1857	8 5 –
1848	—	1858	127 1 –
1849	—	1859	—
1850	—	1860	20 8 8
1851	—	1861	15 – –
1852	—	1862	218 5 –
1853	6 – –	1863	955 18 2
1854	94 8 –	1864	921 19 10
1855	5 – –	1865	2,678 12 3
1856	23 – –	1866	4,778 16 9

No. 6.—Price per 1,000 feet of Gas.

Year.	Price per 1,000 feet.		Year.	Price per 1,000 feet.	
	Cannel.	Common.		Cannel.	Common.
1847	7 *s.* and 8 *s.*		1857	6 *s.*	—
1848	6 *s.* and 7 *s.*		1858	—	—
1849	6 *s.*		1859	—	—
1850	—	—	1860	—	—
1851	4 *s.*, 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, & 6 *s.*		1861	—	—
1852	—	—	1862	—	—
1853	—	—	1863	—	—
1854	4 *s.* 6 *d.* and 5 *s.*		1864	—	—
1855	—	—	1865	—	—
1856	—	—	1866	5 *s.* 6 *d.*	4 *s.* and 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

No. 7.—Price per Street Lamp per Annum.

The following charges include lighting, extinguishing, painting, and keeping in repair posts, columns, lanterns, fittings, &c.

	£. s. d.	
1847	3 14 6 to 5 4 6	Five feet burners. These lamps were supplied at this low rate for permission to lay mains in the district.
1866	3 15 6 to 6 15 –	This price by special agreement consequent on a very large quantity of mains required for public lamps only, in outlying districts, commencing 1852, and includes hire of posts, columns, and lanterns.

PHŒNIX GAS COMPANY.

No. 1.—The Capital at intervals of Five Years for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing Share and Loan Capital.

	Share Capital.	Loan Capital Bonds.	
	£.	£.	£.
1846	369,000	—	—
1851	441,000	—	—
1856	468,000	—	—
1861	495,000	—	—
1866	774,000	—	888,620
	—	114,620	

Appendix, No. 3.

PHŒNIX GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

No. 2.—Maximum Statutory Dividends (if any) on the Whole Capital, or on any Part or Parts thereof.

No limitation of Dividends from 1816 to 1860.

After 1860 :—

£.		
540,000	10 per Cent.	
144,000	5 „	
90,000	7½ „	
114,620	5 „	Bonds.
£.888,620		

No. 3.—The actual Dividend paid for each of Ten years prior to 1860, and for each subsequent Year down to the present time.

1851	3¾ per cent. per annum.	
1852	3½ - ditto - ditto.	
1853	3½ - ditto - ditto.	
1854	4 - ditto - ditto.	
1855	4½ - ditto - ditto.	
1856	6 - ditto - ditto.	
1857	6¾ - ditto - ditto.	
1858	7½ - ditto - ditto.	
1859	8 - ditto - ditto.	
1860	8½ - ditto - ditto -	Bonus, 1 *l.* per share.
1861	9½ - ditto - ditto.	
1862	10 - ditto - ditto -	and 1¾ per cent. arrears of 1856.
1863	10 - ditto - ditto -	and 1½ ditto - ditto - 1857.
1864	10 - ditto - ditto -	on share, and 1½ per cent. arrears of 1858.
	7⅓ - ditto - ditto -	on New Stock.
	5 - ditto - ditto -	on Capitalised Stock.
1865	10 - ditto - ditto -	on Shares.
	7½ - ditto - ditto -	on New Stock.
	5 - ditto - ditto -	on Capitalised Stock.
1866	10 - ditto - ditto -	on Shares.
	7½ - ditto - ditto -	on New Stock.
	5 - ditto - ditto -	on Capitalised Stock.

No. 4.—The Company has no Amount set aside as a Statutable Reserve Fund; but the following is a Table of Amounts set aside yearly as a Reserve for Leasehold Premises.

	£.	
Prior to 1857	nil.	
1857	1,000	
1858	1,022	
1859	1,087	
1860	1,145	
1861	1,416	
1862	1,547	
	7,217	
Sold in 1863	2,500	
	4,717	
Added in 1863	1,449	
1864	1,118	
1865	1,160	
1866	1,200	8,444
	9,644	

PHŒNIX GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

No. 5.—The Amount paid for Damages in each Year in the same Period.

	£.		£.
1850	nil.	1859	nil.
1851	„	1860	„
1852	„	1861	„
1853	„	1862	„
1854	„	1863	„
1855	„	1864	„
1856	87	1865	„
1857	nil.	1866	2,568
1858	„	£.	2,655

No. 6.—Price per 1,000 feet of Gas for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing between Common and Cannel.

—	Common Gas.			—	Common Gas.		
	Town.	Country.			Town.	Country.	
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*			*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	
1846	8 –	—		1857	4 6	5 –	Without meter rent.
1847	8 –	—		1858	4 6	5 –	- - ditto.
1848	8 –	—		1859	4 6	5 –	- - ditto.
1849	6 –	- -	Meter rent.	1860	4 6	5 –	- - ditto.
1850	6 –	- -	- ditto.	1861	4 3	4 9	- - ditto.
1851	6 –	- -	- ditto.	1862	4 3	4 9	- - ditto.
1852	4 –	5 –	Without meter rent.	1863	4 3	4 9	- - ditto.
1853	4 –	5 –	- - ditto.	1864	4 3	4 9	- - ditto.
1854	4 6	5 6	- - ditto.	1865	4 –	4 3	- - ditto.
1855	4 6	5 6	- - ditto.	1866	4 –	4 3	- - ditto.
1856	4 6	5 –	- - ditto.				

ANSWER to Question No. 7.

Year.	Number of Lamps.	Price per Annum.	Remarks.	Year.	Number of Lamps.	Price per Annum.	Remarks.
		£. *s.* *d.*				£. *s.* *d.*	
1847	9	1 3 –	Meter, winter only; parish lighting and repairing.	1849	9	1 2 6	Meter, winter only; parish lighting and repairing.
	50	3 – –	Lighted 8 months only.		55	3 – –	Winter 8 months only.
	53	3 3 –	- - - ditto.		70	3 3 –	Lighted 8 months only.
	7	3 15 –	4 ft. burners.		7	3 15 –	4 ft. burners.
	33	4 10 –			33	4 10 –	
	471	4 15 –			478	4 15 –	
	821	5 – –			111	4 19 9	
	328	5 2 6			1,250	5 – –	
	165	5 4 6			352	5 2 6	
	756	5 5 –			171	5 4 6	
	1,131	5 10 –			1,190	5 5 –	
	23	6 – –	Falls, Herne Hill.		284	5 10 –	
1848	9	1 2 6	Meter, winter only; parish lighting and repairing.	1850	10	1 5 –	Meter, winter only; parish light and repair.
	54	3 – –	Lighted 8 months only.		55	3 – –	Winter 8 months only.
	69	3 3 –	- - - ditto.		75	3 3 –	8 months only.
	7	3 15 –	4 ft. burners.		91	3 15 –	6 months only.
	33	4 10 –			34	4 10 –	
	473	4 15 –			552	4 15 –	
	111	4 19 9			111	4 19 9	
	828	5 – –			1,261	5 – –	
	343	5 2 6			358	5 2 6	
	168	5 4 6			107	5 4 6	
	1,035	5 5 –			1,277	5 5 –	
	775	5 10 –			286	5 10 –	
	23	6 – –	Herne Hill.				

PHŒNIX GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

Year.	Number of Lamps.	Price per Annum. £. s. d.	Remarks.
1851 -	10	- 16 6	Meter, winter only; parish light and repair.
	55	3 - -	8 months only.
	80	3 3 -	- - ditto.
	19	3 15 -	
	94	3 15 -	6 months only.
	266	4 10 -	
	16	4 14 6	
	6	4 15 -	8 months only.
	650	4 15 -	
	376	5 - -	
	364	5 2 6	
	1,548	5 5 -	
1852 -	104	1 19 -	4 months only, winter.
	81	3 3 -	8 - - ditto.
	19	3 15 -	
	610	4 - -	
	1,155	4 4 -	
	1,000	4 10 -	
	1,039	4 15 -	
	6	4 15 -	8 months only.
	2	5 - -	
	16	5 5 -	
1853 -	85	3 3 -	8 months only.
	103	3 18 -	- - ditto.
	414	4 - -	
	360	4 4 -	
	830	4 10 -	
	609	4 15 -	
	6	4 15 -	8 months only.
	2	5 - -	
1854 -	90	2 7 -	Till midnight; meter, 6 months only; except moonlight nights.
	64	2 10 -	4 ft. burners.
	881	4 - -	
	286	4 4 -	
	1,251	4 10 -	
	732	4 15 -	
	6	4 15 -	8 months only.
	22	5 - -	
1855 -	46	2 - -	Dark nights only.
	94	2 7 -	Till midnight; meter, 6 months only; except moonlight nights.
	64	2 10 -	4 ft. burners.
	885	4 - -	
	61	4 4 -	9 months only.
	103	4 4 -	8 - - ditto.
	284	4 10 -	
	1,448	4 15 -	
	3	4 15 -	and 10*s.* for extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	519	5 - -	
1856 -	94	2 7 -	Till midnight; meter, 6 months; moonlight nights excepted.
	64	2 10 -	4 ft. burners.
	46	3 9 -	Dark nights only.
	668	4 - -	
	289	4 10 -	
	1,254	4 15 -	
	1,004	5 - -	
	103	5 - -	and 12*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	15	5 - -	and 20*s.* - - ditto.
	47	5 5 -	

Year.	Number of Lamps.	Price per Annum. £. s. d.	Remarks.
1857 -	3	2 - -	Winter, only to midnight.
	4	2 - 9	Dark nights only.
	98	2 2 -	Till midnight; meter, winter only, except moonlight nights.
	9	2 10 -	4 ft. burners.
	214	4 - -	
	46	4 2 6	8 months only.
	406	4 5 -	
	339	4 7 6	
	870	4 15 -	
	3	4 15 -	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	1,103	4 17 6	
	444	5 - -	
	103	5 - -	and 12*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	15	5 - -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	32	5 - -	and 32*s.* - ditto.
	66	5 5 -	
1858 -	22	2 2 -	Meter, winter only.
	122	3 2 -	- - ditto.
	60	4 - -	
	7	4 - 9	Meter, winter only.
	23	4 5 -	8 months only.
	403	4 5 -	
	341	4 7 6	
	463	4 10 -	
	591	4 15 -	
	3	4 15 -	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 -	and 20*s* - ditto.
	1,116	4 17 6	
	444	5 - -	
	3	5 - -	and 7*s.* 6*d.* extra cost of lighting.
	104	5 - -	and 12*s.* - ditto.
	28	5 - -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	33	5 - -	and 32*s.* - ditto.
	46	5 5 -	
1859 -	60	4 - -	
	123	4 3 -	Meter, 8 months.
	7	4 4 -	- - ditto.
	422	4 5 -	
	342	4 7 6	
	465	4 9 -	
	607	4 15 -	
	3	4 15 -	and 10*s.* each for extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	1,124	4 17 6	
	448	5 - -	
	3	5 - -	and 7*s.* 6*d.* extra cost of lighting.
	37	5 - -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	34	5 - -	and 32*s.* - ditto.
	105	5 - -	and 12*s.* - ditto.
	48	5 5 -	
1860 -	60	4 - -	
	58	4 2 -	8 months only.
	134	4 4 -	Meter, 8 months only.
	396	4 5 -	
	23	4 7 -	8 months only.
	341	4 7 6	
	7	4 8 -	Meter, 8 months only.
	468	4 9 -	
	487	4 10 -	
	1,257	4 15 -	
	3	4 15 -	and 10*s.* each extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	452	5 - -	
	98	5 - -	and 12*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	13	5 - -	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	34	5 - -	and 32*s.* - ditto.
	70	5 5 -	

PHŒNIX GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

Year.	Number of Lamps.	Price per Annum. £. s. d.	Remarks.
1861	58	4 2 –	8 months only.
	457	4 5 –	
	23	4 7 –	8 months only.
	342	4 7 6	
	1,298	4 10 –	
	3	4 10 –	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	12	4 10 –	and 5*s.* - ditto.
	452	4 15 –	
	3	4 15 –	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	451	5 – –	
	100	5 – –	and 12*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	13	5 – –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	34	5 – –	and 32*s.* - ditto.
	7	5 3 –	Meter, 9 months.
	138	5 4 –	- - ditto.
	70	5 5 –	
1862	963	4 5 –	
	210	4 5 –	8 months only.
	479	4 9 –	
	1,158	4 10 –	
	12	4 10 –	and 5*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	3	4 10 –	and 10*s.* - ditto.
	470	4 15 –	
	3	4 15 –	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	455	5 – –	
	104	5 – –	and 12*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	11	5 – –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	34	5 – –	and 32*s.* - ditto.
	247	5 5 –	
1863	220	4 5 –	8 months only.
	960	4 5 –	
	479	4 9 –	
	1,177	4 10 –	
	12	4 10 –	and 5*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	3	4 10 –	and 10*s.* - ditto.
	485	4 15 –	
	3	4 15 –	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	462	5 – –	
	11	5 – –	and 20*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	35	5 – –	and 25*s.* - ditto.
	386	5 5 –	
1864	955	4 5 –	
	480	4 9 –	
	1,189	4 10 –	
	12	4 10 –	and 5*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	3	4 10 –	and 10*s.* - ditto.
	489	4 15 –	
	3	4 15 –	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	468	5 – –	
	11	5 – –	and 20*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	35	5 – –	and 25*s.* - ditto.
	670	5 5 –	
1865	92	3 14 –	Southwark-street.
	1,134	4 5 –	
	303	4 9 –	
	1,227	4 10 –	
	12	4 10 –	and 5*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	3	4 10 –	and 10*s.* - ditto.
	494	4 15 –	
	3	4 15 –	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	478	5 – –	
	11	5 – –	and 20*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	35	5 – –	and 25*s.* - ditto.
	712	5 5 –	
1866	92	3 16 –	Southwark-street.
	1,449	4 5 –	
	307	4 9 –	
	964	4 10 –	
	12	4 10 –	and 5*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	3	4 10 –	and 10*s.* - ditto.
	507	4 15 –	
	3	4 15 –	and 10*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	5	4 15 –	and 20*s.* - ditto.
	486	5 – –	
	11	5 – –	and 20*s.* extra cost of lighting.
	35	5 – –	and 25*s.* - ditto.
	748	5 5 –	

RATCLIFF GAS COMPANY.

Year.	1. CAPITAL. Share Capital.	1. CAPITAL. Loan Capital.	2. Maximum Statutory Dividend on Capital.	3. Actual Dividend Paid by the Company.	4. Amount set aside as Reserve.	5. Amount Paid for Damages.	6. Price per 1,000 Feet of Gas.	7. Price per Street Lamp per Annum.	8. Accounts for 1866, under the Acts of 1860.
	£.	£.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.			
1847	- - -	- -	Maximum statutory dividend on whole Capital provided by Act of 1847.	5 12 6	–	–	7*s.*	95*s.*	For the Accounts, *see* Paper, No. 1.
1848	- - -	- -		6 – –	–	–	7*s.* & 6*s.*		
1849	- - -	- -		6 – –	–	–	6*s.*		
1850	- - -	- -		6 – –	–	–	6*s.* & 5*s.*		
1851	80,000	3,350		6 – –	–	–	5*s.* & 4*s.*		
1852	- - -	- -		5 16 3	–	–	4*s.*		
1853	- - -	- -		5 12 6	–	–	4*s.*		
1854	- - -	- -		5 9 3	–	–	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1855	- - -	- -		5 – –	–	A few	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1856	80,000	8,409		5 – –	Nil.	shillings.	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1857	- - -	- -		5 12 6	–	–	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1858	- - -	- -		6 8 1½	–	–	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1859	- - -	- -		6 11 3	–	–	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1860	- - -	- -		6 17 6	–	–	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1861	90,000	9,096		6 17 6	–	–	4*s.* & 4*s.* 6*d.*		
1862	- - -	- -		8 15 –	–	–	4*s.* 6*d.*		
1863	- - -	- -		11 17 6	–	–	4*s.* 6*d.*		
1864	- - -	- -		16 5 –	–	–	4*s.* 6*d.*		
1865	- - -	- -		11 15 5	–	–	4*s.* 6*d.*		
1866	100,000	14,000		10 – –	–	–	4*s.* 6*d.*		

Appendix, No. 3.

SOUTH METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANY.

Return of the Capital	1846	£. 100,000
	1851	100,000
	1856	116,000
	1861	157,970
	1866	222,950

Maximum statutory dividend, 10 per cent.

Dividend paid:

1850	6 per cent.	1856	8 per cent.
1851	5½ „	1857	10 „
1852	5 „	1858	9⅓ „
1853	5 „	1859	10 „
1854	5⅓ „	1860	10 „
1855	7 „	1860 to 1866	10 „

Amount set aside as a Reserve Fund, to meet Deficiency in Dividend, or other Claims:

1850 to 1853	nil.	
1854	£. 634 5 5	Afterwards absorbed in payment of dividend.
1855	2,098 5 10	
1856	nil.	
1857	200 3 2	
1858	2,976 10 2	£. 76. 3. 3. - ditto.
1859	nil.	
1860	6,564 16 7	
1861	5,139 14 10	
1862	£. 1,500 13 7	Making the full amount of £. 20,000, authorized by the Act of Parliament.

Damages paid have been so trifling in these years, that no special record has been kept; in 1866, 56 *l.* was paid.

Price of Gas to Private Consumers:

	Per 1,000 feet.		
1847	8/ throughout the district.		
1848	7/ „	„	
1849	6/ „	„	
1850	5/ for the home districts;	6/ in the country.	
1851	4/6 „	„	5/ „
1852	4/ „	„	5/ „
1853	4/ „	„	5/ „
1854	4/6 „	„	5/6 „
1855	4/6 „	„	5/6 „
1856	4/6 „	„	5/ „
1857	4/6 „	„	5/ „
1858	4/6 „	„	5/ „
1859	4/6 „	„	5/ „
1860	4/6 „	„	5/ „
	Reduced at Michaelmas, 1860.		
1861	4/2 „	„	4/6 „
1862	4/ „	„	4/6 „
1863	4/ „	„	4/ „
1864	4/ „	„	4/ „
	Reduced to 3/8, 30th June 1864.		
1865	3/8 „	„	3/8 „
	Reduced to 3/4, 30th June 1865.		
1866	3/4 „	„	3/4 „
1867	3/4 „	„	3/4 „

Cannel Coal not used prior to 1861; since then it has varied from 2½ to 5 per cent.

Price per Street Lamp:

1847 to 1850	£. 4 4 to	£. 5 5
1851	4 4 to	5 –
1852 to 1860	4 4 to	5 –
1861 to 1864	4 4 to	4 15

From Midsummer 1864, 5 per cent. allowed on these prices, and from Midsummer 1865 a further allowance of 2½ per cent., making the home district 3 *l.* 17 *s.* 9 *d.* per lamp, including 20 *s.* 3 *d.* per lamp, actually paid for lighting and repairs; and the country district 4 *l.* 7 *s.* 11 *d.*, including 22 *s.* to 26 *s.* actually paid for lighting and repairs.

There are some lamps charged at higher prices than those given, in consequence of the distance from lamp to lamp being double, and in some places treble, that named in the Metropolis Gas Act.

30 May 1867. (signed) *J. Livesey*, Secretary.

SURREY CONSUMERS' GAS COMPANY.

1.—The Capital of the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company in the years 1851, 1856, 1861, and 1866, distinguishing Share from Loan Capital, is as follows:

	1851.	1856.	1861.	1866.
		£. s. d.	£.	£.
Shares	14,006	116,767 8 –	149,994	200,000
Bonds	nil	31,200 – –	34,900	42,000

2.—Maximum Statutory Dividend on Capital:

Ten per cent. if the charge per 1,000 feet of gas does not exceed 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

3.—The Actual Dividend paid by the Company since its Formation for each Year down to the present time:

1849	Nil.	1860	8 per cent.
1850	Nil.	1861	8 „
1851	Nil.	1862	10 „
1852	4¼ per cent.	1863	10 „ 4 Back dividend.
1853	7 „	1864	10 per cent. 3 Back dividend.
1854	7 „	1865	10 per cent. 2 Back dividend.
1855	8 „	1866*	9½ per cent. 2 Back dividend.
1856	8 „		
1857	8 „		
1858	8 „		
1859	8 „		

* After the reduction of price from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.* per 1,000 in June 1866, the dividend came down to the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, viz.:—Five per cent., and 2 per cent. for back dividend for first half, and 4½ per cent. for second half.

4.—The Amount set aside as Reserve in the same Period.

— Nil. —

5.—The Amount paid for Damages during the same Period.

— Nil. —

6.—The Price per 1,000 feet of Gas for the same Period:

Up to the end of the year 1853 the Company charged 4 *s.* per 1,000 feet; it was then raised to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, at which price it continued till June 1856, when it was again reduced to 4 *s.*

Appendix, No. 3.

SURREY CONSUMERS' GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

7.—Price per Street Lamp per Annum for the same Period:

£. 4 to 4 *l.* 15 *s.*, including lighting, cleaning, extinguishing, and repairing.

8.—The Accounts for 1866 under the Act of 1860:

[*See* Appendix, No 1.]

PRICE for GAS supplied, including Lighting, Cleansing, and Repairing Public Lamps.

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.	£. s.
Dover Road Trust - - -	4 -	4 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commissioners of Bermondsey Improvement.	-	-	4 -	4 -	4 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bermondsey Vestry - - -	-	-	-	-	-	4 -	4 -	4 -	4 -	4 -	4 5	4 5	4 5	4 5	4 5
Eastern Division of Bermondsey	4 -	4 -	4 -	4 -	4 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Olave's District Board of Works.	-	-	-	-	-	4 -	4 -	4 -	4 -	4 -	*4 5	4 5	4 5	4 5	4 5
Rotherhithe - - - -	4 -	4 -	4 -	(Not lighted with gas.)			4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 10	4 10	4 10	4 10
St. Paul's, Deptford - - -	4 10	4 10	4 10	4 10	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15
St. Nicholas, Deptford (from September to April only).	3 18	3 18	3 18	3 18	3 18	3 18	3 18	3 18	3 18	3 18	-	-	-	-	-
Ditto - ditto, for all the year -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15	4 15

* Exclusive of Cleaning, Repairing, &c., &c.

Rotherhithe, 29 May 1867.

THE WESTERN GAS COMPANY.

1.—Capital at Intervals of Five Years for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing Share and Loan Capital.

Year ended June 30.	Share Capital.	Loans.
	£.	£.
1846 (the Company having been established in the previous year).	25,977	—
1851 - - - - - -	118,510	10,000
1856 - - - - - -	177,420	44,600
1861 - - - - - -	210,000	49,328
1866 - - - - - -	300,000	45,460

2.—Maximum Statutory Dividend (if any) on the whole Capital, or on any part or parts thereof of this Company.

Statutory Dividend on so much of the Capital as is in shares, 10 per cent.

THE WESTERN GAS COMPANY—*continued.* Appendix, No. 3.

3.—The actual Dividend paid by this Company for each of Ten Years prior to 1860, and for each subsequent Year, down to the present time.

1847	Nil.	1861	8½ per cent., and bonus out of profits reserved before the Metropolis Gas Act.
1848	,,		
1849	,,		
1850	,,		
1851	,,	1862	10 per cent., with 1⅜ per cent. for arrears.
1852	2 per cent.		
1853	2½ ,,	1863	10 per cent., with 1 per cent. for arrears.
1854	2½ ,,		
1855	3¾ ,,	1864	10 per cent., with 3¾ per cent. for arrears.
1856	Nil.		
1857	5 per cent.	1865	10 per cent., with 4⅝ per cent. for arrears.
1858	5 ,,		
1859	7 ,,	1866	10 per cent.
1860	8 ,,		

4.—The Amount set aside by this Company in each Year in the same Period as Reserve.

		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1863	Leasehold Redemption Fund	12 15 –	
1864	Ditto - - - ditto	26 5 4	
1865	Ditto - - - ditto	27 6 7	
1866	Ditto - - - ditto	28 8 8	
			94 15 7
1865	Ordinary Reserve or Unappropriated Profits.	277 – 8	
1866	Ditto - - - ditto	1,984 12 9	
			2,261 13 5
	TOTAL - - - £.		2,356 9 –

5.—The Amount Paid by this Company for Damages in each Year in the same Period.

Nil.

6.—Price per One Thousand Feet of Gas for the last Twenty Years, distinguishing between Common and Cannel.

Date.	Price of Cannel Gas per 1,000 Feet.	Date.	Price of Cannel Gas per 1,000 Feet.
	s. d.		*s. d.*
1850	8 –	1858	6 –
1851	8 – 3 months.	1859	6 –
	7 – 6 months.	1860	6 –
	6 – 3 months.	1861	6 –
1852	6 –	1862	6 –
1853	6 –	1863	6 –
1854	6 –	1864	6 –
1855	6 –	1865	6 – 9 months.
1856	6 –		5 6 3 months.
1857	6 –	1866	5 6

This Company's Gas is exclusively Cannel.

Appendix, No. 3.

THE WESTERN GAS COMPANY—*continued.*

7.—Price per Street Lamp per Annum, charged for the same Period.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
1854 - - - - -	3	17	7	1861 - - - - -	4	11	4
1855 - - - - -	3	19	2	1862 - - - - -	4	12	5
1856 - - - - -	4	–	3	1863 - - - - -	4	11	3
1857 - - - - -	4	–	9	1864 - - - - -	4	11	–
1858 - - - - -	4	7	5	1865 - - - - -	4	7	5
1859 - - - - -	4	10	–	1866 - - - - -	4	3	1
1860 - - - - -	4	9	5				

These are the average prices, the quantity of Gas contracted for varying in the several contracts from 2½ feet to 4 feet per hour.

Appendix, No. 4.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Michael*, 18 June 1867. Appendix, No. 4.

METROPOLIS GAS, 1867.

ALPHABETICAL TABLE, showing the MINIMUM ILLUMINATING POWER prescribed by Parliament from 1856 to 1866 (both years inclusive), with Date of Act, and Maximum Price.

SUMMARY OF 189 ACTS.

No. of Acts.		Candles.
1	Act prescribing	9
23	Acts „	10
4	„ „	11
40	„ „	12
7	„ „	13
68	„ „	14
4	„ „	15
6	„ „	16
4	„ „	18
1	Act (Liverpool)	20
2	Acts (Metropolis and Dewsbury)	12 and 20
29	„ Illuminating power not named.	
189		

MINIMUM ILLUMINATING POWER.

(With Date of Act and Maximum Price.)

Towns.	Date of Act.	Maximum Price.			
		s.	d.	s.	d.
NINE CANDLES.					
(1 Act.)					
Highbridge	1860	6	–		
TEN CANDLES.					
(23 Acts.)					
Bath	1856	4	6		
Birmingham, Staffordshire	1858	4	–		
Burslem	1857	5	–		
Cheltenham	1856	5	–	& 6	6
Cork (Un. General Company)	1857	6	–		
Droylsden	1860	6	–	& 5	6
Filey	1856		—		
Gainsborough	1856	5	6		
Gloucester	1856	5	6		
Glasgow, City and Suburban	1857	5	6		
Heywood	1856	6	6		
Hull (British Company)	1858	5	–		
Knottingley	1856	7	–		
Lancaster	1856	4	–	to 7	–
Pennystone	1858	6	–		
Staffordshire Potteries (British Company).	1858	5	–	to 6	–
Stockton	1857	5	–	& 6	–
Stoke Fenton	1858	5	–		
Scarborough	1859	6	8		
Torquay	1860	5	6		
Weymouth	1856	6	–		
Wallasey	1858	6	–		
Waterford	1858	6	–		
ELEVEN CANDLES.					
(4 Acts.)					
Mirfield	1860	5	–		
Norwich (British Company)	1858	4	6	to 5	–
Swansea	1861	4	–	to 5	6
Tottenham	1859	6	–		
TWELVE CANDLES.					
(40 Acts.)					
Abergavenny	1860	5	–		
Aldershott	1866	5	–	& 4	6
Bath	1865	3	9	& 5	–
Boston	1856	5	6		
Brentford	1858	6	–		
Bury	1857	5	–		
Chepstow	1857	5	–		
City, London	1859	5	–	7	–
Clitheroe	1861	5	–		
Croydon	1860	6	–		
Crystal Palace	1858	6	–		
Coventry	1856	4	6		
Dover	1860	5	3		
Glasgow	1857	5	6		
Guildford	1857	6	6		

Minimum Illuminating Power. (With Date of Act and Maximum Price)—*continued.*

Towns.	Date of Act.	Maximum Price.
Twelve Candles—*continued.*		*s. d.*
Heckmondwike	1862	4 6
Haslingden	1861	5 9
Leicester	1860	4 6
Leigh	1861	5 6
Luton	1858	6 –
Maidstone	1858	6 –
Northampton	1858	5 – to 6 –
Nottingham	1858	3 1½ to 3 6½
Portsea Island	1861	4 6 to 5 6
Reading	1862	4 3 to 6 6
Shrewsbury	1857	6 – & 7 –
South Shields	1857	4 6
Sowerby Bridge	1861	5 –
Stratford-on-Avon	1857	5 6
Sunderland	1857	4 –
Uxbridge	1861	5 6 to 7 –
Victoria Docks	1857	6 – & 5 –
Wakefield	1856	—
Wandsworth	1856	6 –
West Ham	1856	5 6
Widnes	1860	6 8
Willenhall	1857	6 –
Whitworth Vale	1861	6 –
Yarmouth	1863	5 –
Worksop	1856	6 –
Thirteen Candles. (7 Acts.)		
Bedford	1864	5 6
Brierley Hill	1865	5 6
Lea Bridge (County and General.)	1864	6 –
Longton	1866	3 6 & 4 –
Northfleet	1864	6 4
Stourbridge	1866	4 6
Stroud	1864	5 –
Fourteen Candles. (68 Acts.)		
Aberavon	1866	5 6
Accrington	1863	5 –
*Aldrington, Hove, and Brighton	1866	3 6
Banbury	1866	4 6 & 7 –
Barrow	1864	6 –
Belfast	1865	4 6
Birmingham (Staffordshire)	1864	4 & 5 –
Birstal	1865	4 6
Brighton and Hove	1866	3 6 - 4 – and 5 –
Briton Ferry	1866	5 6
Bromley	1865	6 –
Bryamaur	1866	5 –
Canterbury	1866	4 – & 4 6
Chertsey	1864	6 –
Clayton	1864	5 –
Cleethorpes	1866	5 10
Colchester	1866	4 3 & 4 6
Colney Hatch	1866	5 –
Congleton	1866	4 6 & 5 –
Crays	1865	7 – & 6 –
Croydon	1866	5 –
Deal and Walmer	1864	6 –
Drighlington	1865	5 10
East Barnet	1866	7 – & 6 –
Elland	1861	5 –
Elsecar	1863	5 –
Exeter	1865	4 –
Exmouth	1865	6 –
Fareham	1865	5 3
Folkestone	1865	5 –

Towns.	Date of Act.	Maximum Price.
Fourteen Candles—*continued.*		*s. d.*
Frome	1866	5 –
Gomersal	1865	6 –
Gravesend	1863	5 –
Gosport	1865	4 6
Grange	1866	7 – & 6 –
Huddersfield	1861	4 – to 5 –
Harrogate	1863	6 –
Hertford	1864	6 –
Hastings, &c.	1865	5 –
Hornsey	1866	5 –
Ipswich	1864	5 –
Leyland	1863	6 –
Leamington Priors	1865	4 – to 5 6
North Bierley	1863	5 –
Newcastle-on-Tyne	1864	3 4 & 5 –
Neath	1866	4 2
Nelson	1866	5 – & 5 6
Newark	1866	4 3
Oldham	1865	4 6
Ramsbottom	1865	5 –
Rastrick	1865	5 –
Redhill	1865	6 – & 5 6
Ripon	1865	6 – & 5 6
Ross	1865	5 –
Rossendale	1865	5 –
Ryde	1866	5 –
Staffordshire Potteries (British Company).	1866	3 6
Stretford	1862	5 – to 5 6
Slough	1866	6 –
Skipton	1863	6 –
Salisbury	1864	5 – & 6 6
Southampton	1865	4 6 to 5 6
Tonbridge Wells	1864	6 – & 7 –
Ulverston	1864	6 – & 6 8
Ventnor	1866	5 10
Walker and Wallsend	1866	5 –
Wandsworth and Putney	1866	4 6
Winchester	1865	5 –
Fifteen Candles. (4 Acts).		
Chester	1858	4 6 & 5 –
Chesterfield	1865	4 – to 5 –
Littleboro'	1865	5 –
Sheffield	1866	Not named.
Sixteen Candles. (6 Acts.)		
Alliance and Dublin	1866	5 –
Bolton	1864	Not named.
Leeds (New)	1862	,,
Leeds	1863	,,
Tildersley	1865	5 –
Windermere	1862	7 –
Eighteen Candles. (4 Acts.)		
Bollington	1862	6 –
Macclesfield	1860	4 –
Preston	1865	4 2
Wigan	1861	4 2 & 5 6
†Dewsbury (12 and 20)	1860	4 – & 5 6
Liverpool United (20)	1865	Not named.
Metropolis Gas (12 and 20)	1860	5 6 & 7 6 (Subject to arbitration if price raised above 4 *s.* 6 *d.* and 6 *s.*)

* The Aldrington Company has not yet started, and does not seem likely to do so.

† Dewsbury is supplied with the lower illuminating power only.

Appendix, No. 4.

METROPOLIS GAS, 1867.

ALPHABETICAL ANALYSIS of House of Commons' Return, August 1866.—(Captain *Gridley.*)

The number of Companies and Corporations named in the Return is - -		175
Deduct Chorley, Ryde, and Wellington Commissioners, who furnish no particulars, and Halifax, whose price of gas is not given - - - - - -		4
		171
Deduct Metropolitan and Suburban Companies - - - - - -	21	
And 8 Gas Companies and 1 Corporation (Oldham) supplying Water as well as Gas - - - - - - - - - - - - -	9	
		30
		141
Of these 141 Returns, the number furnished by Companies is - - -		131
And by Corporations - - - - - - - - - - - - -		10

In the year 1865—

75 per cent. (99) of the 131 Companies charged as much as or more than the London Companies.

25 per cent. (32) of the 131 Companies charged less than the London Companies.

6 of the 10 Corporations charged as much as or more than the London Companies.

4 „ „ „ less than the London Companies.

THE 99 COMPANIES charging as high as the London Companies.

Towns.	Price paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.	Towns.	Price paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.
	s. d.	*s. d. s. d.*		*s. d.*	*s. d. s. d.*
Ashton - - - - -	11 9	4 – & 3 2	Hastings - - - -	18 10½	5 – & 4 –
Bilston - - - - -	11 6	4 – to 3 –	Hereford - - - -	11 6	4 –
Bingley - - - - -	9 –	5 –	Heywood - - - -	16 –	4 6¾
Blackburn - - - -	14 –	4 – to 3 9	Holmfirth - - - -	11 3	5 10
Bolton - - - - -	14 6 Cannel.	5 – to 3 6	Hyde - - - - -	12 –	5 – to 3 6
Boston - - - - -	13 7¾	4 –	Kendal - - - - -	18 9 and 12 –	5 – & 4 2
Bridgwater - - - -	12 3	5 –			
Brierley Hill - - - -	11 6	4 7	Kidderminster - - -	15 9 to 15 –	4 6 to 4 –
Brighton and Hove - -	16 7	4 –			
Burslem and Tunstall - -	10 –	4 –			
Bury St. Edmunds - - -	17 –	5 –	Kingston-on-Thames - -	not stated	5 6
Cambridge - - - -	13 8¼	4 6	Knottingley - - - -	8 9	5 –
Canterbury - - - -	17 3	4 3	Lancaster - - - -	15 7	5 – to 4 –
Cheltenham - - - -	14 1½	4 9 to 3 4	Llanelly - - - - -	8 –	5 –
Chepstow - - - -	13 6	4 –	Louth - - - - -	14 6	5 –
Chester - - - - -	11 2	5 – to 4 6	Luton - - - - -	14 –	4 6
Clitheroe - - - -	17 4¾ and 11 11¾	5 – to 3 9	Maidstone - - - -	14 6	4 –
			Middlesborough - - -	9 –	4 6
			Morley - - - - -	8 6	5 –
Dewsbury and Batley - -	9 6	4 –	Newcastle-upon-Lyme - -	8 9	5 –
Dover - - - - -	16 9	5 –	New Mills - - - -	14 6	5 10 to 4 –
Dukenfield - - - -	11 1	4 6 to 3 4½	Northampton - - - -	13 3¼	4 2
Elland - - - - -	9 6	4 7	North Bierly - - - -	9 –	5 – & 4 –
Exeter - - - - -	17 9	4 –	Norwich (British Company) -	13 10	4 – & 3 9
Farnworth and Kearsley - -	10 10	4 8 to 3 9	Ormskirk - - - -	14 5	5 6 & 5 –
Gainsborough - - -	9 3	4 – to 3 –	Ossett - - - - -	6 3	4 7
Glossop - - - - -	15 9¾	5 – & 3 4	Over Darwen - - - -	14 – and 8 4	4 9 to 3 10
Gloucester - - - -	13 6	4 – & 3 6			
Guildford - - - -	18 9	5 –			
Harrogate - - - -	16 3	5 10	Oxford - - - - -	16 –	4 –
Haslingden - - - -	16 – and 9 11½	5 5 to 3 9	Peniston - - - -	7 –	5 –
			Portsea - - - - -	15 11	4 –
			Pudsey - - - - -	9 6	5 5 to 3 6¼

The 99 Companies charging as high as the London Companies—*continued.*

Towns.	Price paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.
	s. d.	*s. d. s. d.*
Radcliffe and Pilkington	13 6	4 10
Ramsbottom	15 3	5 – to 3 3
Reading	16 1 and 15 5	5 – to 4 3
Rossendale	14 2	5 – to 4 3
Rotherham	9 –	4 – to 3 2
Runcorn	12 8	5 – to 4 10½
St. Helen's	9 4	5 – to 4 6
Scarborough	12 2½	5 –
Sculcoates (British Company)	9 9	4 – to 3 9
Shipley	9 5	4 2
Shrewsbury	12 6	4 6 to 4 –
Skipton	11 10½	5 5
Southampton	15 8	4 6
Stafford	9 6	4 2 to 3 3
Staleybridge	16 4	3 – to 4 –
Stamford	11 9	4 6
Stoke Fenton	11 – and 8 4	4 3
Stratford-upon-Avon	15 –	5 –
Swansea	12 –	4 – to 3 10
Taunton	16 –	4 6
Torquay	18 –	5 – & 5 6
Uxbridge	not stated	5 6 to 7 –
Warrington	11 9	3 5 to 4 6
Warwick	15 1	4 6
Wells	8 6	5 –
Weston-super-Mare	13 9	4 6
Wigan	11 9	5 – to 3 4½
Willenhall	12 6	3 6 to 4 2
Windermere	19 –	7 –
Worcester	13 8½	4 –
Worksop	11 6	5 –
Yarmouth	13 11¼	4 6
Dundee	21 –	4 8
Edinburgh	18 8	4 4 to 3 8
Edinburgh and Leith	16 10½	4 7 to 3 9
Glasgow (City)	13 –	4 2
Glasgow	14 6¾	4 2
Hamilton	15 11½	5 –
Inverness	26 6	7 6
Kilmarnock	15 –¼	5 –
Londonderry	16 6	5 –
Sligo	18 –	6 3

THE 32 COMPANIES charging Lower than the London Companies.

Towns.	Price paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.
	s. d.	*s. d. s. d.*
Barnsley	5 –	3 9
Bath	12 6	3 9
Birmingham	11 10	3 – to 2 6
Birmingham and Staffordshire	not stated	3 – to 2 6
Bradford	9 10½	3 – to 2 5
Bristol	8 6	3 6
Cardiff	9 6 Cannel, 24 –	3 3 to 2 9
Derby	9 8	3 5 to 2 11
Devonport	16 6 Cannel, 28 –	3 9
Dudley	14 4 and 12 7	3 9 to 3 –
Great Grimsby	9 3	3 9 to 3 6
Ipswich	14 6 Cannel, 27 –	3 9
Kingston-on-Hull	12 1½	3 9 to 3 –
Leeds	9 6½	3 9
Leeds (New)	9 7	3 9
Leicester	not stated	3 1 to 3 6
Liverpool	not stated	3 –
Newark	12 8	3 4
Newcastle and Gateshead	6 4	3 4 to 2 6
Newport	8 3	3 9 to 3 3
Nottingham	11 5	3 – to 2 9
Plymouth	16 3	2 9
Preston	12 –	3 9 to 3 4
Sheffield	8 8	3 6 & 3 –
South Shields	6 6	3 8
Staffordshire Potteries (British Company).	9 –	3 6
Stourbridge	11 –	3 9 to 3 –
Sunderland	7 –	3 6 to 3 –
Wakefield	6 –	3 4
Wolverhampton	10 6 to 17 –	2 9 & 3 –
York	9 2	3 6
Belfast	15 2	3 9 to 3 –

THE 6 CORPORATIONS charging as much as or more than the London Companies.

Towns.	Price Paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.	Towns.	Price Paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.
	s. d.	*s. d.* *s. d.*		*s. d.*	*s. d.* *s. d.*
Birkenhead	15 6	5 6 & 5 –	Macclesfield	10 6	4 – & 3 3
				Cannel 19 –	
Congleton	Cannel 10 –	*s. d.* 4 6	Rochdale	7 3	4 6 & 4 –
				Cannel 15 10½	*s. d.*
Middleton	5 10	5 –	Sowerby	9 10	4 2

THE 4 CORPORATIONS charging Less than the London Companies.

Towns.	Price Paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.	Towns.	Price Paid for Coal.	Present Price of Gas.
	s. d.	*s. d.* *s. d.*		*s. d.*	*s. d.* *s. d.*
Burnley	9 6	3 6	Carlisle	10 1	3 –
Bury (Lancashire)	6 2 Cannel 16 –	3 9 & 3 2	Stockport	Cannel 17 4	3 6 & 3 –

METROPOLIS GAS, 1867.

CAPITALS OF PROVINCIAL GAS COMPANIES,

Ascertained by application from the Metropolitan Gas Companies to all the Gas Companies in England having a Capital of £.5,000 and upwards.

	CAPITAL.				CAPITAL.		
	Per Ton of Coal.	Per £. 100 Gas Rental.	Per Million Feet Gas sold.		Per Ton of Coal.	Per £. 100 Gas Rental.	Per Million Feet Gas sold.
Ashton-under-Lyne	–	432	1,074	Portsea	5·6	359	718
Bath	5·7	400	629	P (confidential)	8·7	573	–
Blackburne	9·4	435	938	Radcliffe and Pilkington	–	582	1,345
Bolton	7·8	–	–	Reading	7·1	452	1,013
Bridgwater	7·4	446	1,065	Richmond (Surrey)	–	374	833
Brighton and Hove	7·1	363	833	R (confidential)	–	698	1,582
Cambridge	4·7	279	640	Rotherham	5·4	490	643
Chertsey	6·4	475	1,237	St. Helens	5·4	456	1,100
Chorley	–	–	1,054	Sheppey	–	462	900
Cirencester	6·	280	840	Shipley	7·5	522	1,114
Coventry	11·6	605	1,466	Shrewsbury	–	373	819
Dover	–	360	775	South Shields	–	385	–
Droylsden	8·3	477	854	Stafford	–	450	817
Dukenfield	8·2	480	1,000	Staleybridge	8·5	565	1,000
Exeter	8·1	460	–	Stoke Fenton and Longton	5·3	476	726
Folkestone	4·6	275	705	Stratford-on-Avon	5·4	325	845
Gainsborough	–	760	1,600	Swansea	6·4	451	775
Gloucester	7·7	615	991	Tunbridge Wells	7·2	334	856
Harrogate	–	588	1,800	Weston-super-mare	5·8	332	909
Hastings	7·6	450	1,000	Whitworth Vale	11·	535	937
Hebden Bridge	–	353	1,000	Woodbridge	–	466	–
Holmforth	–	600	1,831	Woolwich Eq.	4·2	240	390
Huddersfield	–	357	570	Worcester	–	290	509
Huntingdon	–	522	1,500	Worksop	–	756	1,902
Kettering	8·1	418	–	York United	–	431	739
L (confidential)	–	600	1,400	Tynemouth	–	371	692
Leamington Priors	9·6	501	1,077	Kendal	6·5	400	–
Leighton Buzzard	–	580	–				
Leominster	12·5	654	1,773	Average of the whole (60) who furnished these particulars.	–	461	–
Lincoln	4·5	331	551				
Louth	–	500	400	Ditto - 53 - ditto	–	–	993
Maidstone	–	362	634				
Maryport	11·	626	780	Ditto - 36 - ditto	7·2	–	–
Newport (Monmouth)	5·2	400	–				
Ormskirk	–	582	1,490	Western Company of London	7·8	337	943

Appendix, No. 4.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, 1867.

WESTERN COMPANY.

	December 1856 (before districting).	December 1866.	Difference per Cent.
Share and Loan Capital per £. 100 Income - -	£. 531. 9.	£. 317. 9.	40·2
The same, per £. 100 Gas Rental - - -	£. 608. 7.	£. 364. 8.	40·
The same, per million feet made - - - -	£. 1,610.	£. 842.	47·7
The same, per ton of coal - - - - -	£. 13. 3.	£. 7. 8.	41·3
Gas made - - - - - - - - - -	*Cubic feet.* 138,000,000 (nearly).	*Cubic feet.* 410,000,000 (nearly).	197·
Total Income - - - - - - - -	£. 41,754.	£. 108,651	160·
Number of Consumers - - - - -	4,779	11,700	144 p'ct.
Amount required for Dividend and Interest per 1,000 feet of Gas made.	*d.* 35·04	*d.* 18·36	47·6

PAPER handed in by Mr. *Baxter*, 19 June 1867.

METROPOLITAN GAS, 1867.

TABLE showing the Results of each Company's Operations in the Year 1866, and the Average of those making Coal Gas only, and those making both kinds; the Amounts being taken, so far as they therein appear, from the Parliamentary Returns.

—	NAME OF COMPANY.	GAS SOLD. Cubic Feet.	COALS. Tons.	COALS. Cost.	RESIDUALS.	General Charges.	Amount Required to Pay Interest and Statutory Dividend.	TOTAL CAPITAL.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d
Make Common Gas only.	Commercial	628,364,000	71,608	62,303 9 5	24,791 10 11	39,778 6 3	43,738 10 5	437,720 – –
	Great Central	389,443,800	51,393	39,802 11 11	22,623 12 10	34,076 10 1	23,300 – –	266,000 – –
	Imperial	2,380,521,000	299,009	246,560 6 4	99,884 8 7	182,941 1 6	160,995 16 8	1,814,755 15 –
	Independent	380,496,000	50,958	43,849 13 9	19,297 2 2	28,364 16 4	16,726 10 8	205,500 – –
	Phœnix	839,088,000	103,471	81,793 14 1	46,654 2 8	67,442 9 2	71,661 8 –	888,620 – –
	Ratcliffe	145,128,000	21,087	17,242 12 6	7,390 4 11	13,025 2 2	10,458 1 4	114,000 – –
	S. Metropolitan	417,908,000	48,484	36,968 19 5	21,194 3 4	33,381 7 7	20,701 13 4	228,821 10 –
	Surrey	294,332,000	37,207	28,090 1 7	14,251 10 5	22,207 – 6	22,120 7 8	245,643 – –
	Totals	5,475,280,800	683,217	556.611 9 –	256,086 15 10	421,216 13 7	369,702 8 1	4,201,060 5 –
	Averages – Per ton	8,013	–	– 16 3·41	– 7 5·95	– 12 4·00	– 10 9·84	6 3 –
	Averages – Per 1,000 cubic feet	–	–	– – 24·57	– – 11·22	– – 18·46	– – 16·20	—
Make both Common and Cannel Gas.	Chartered	1,204,228,000	153,634	140,358 17 9	49,344 10 –	99,940 10 4	81,000 – –	810,000 – –
	City	527,404,751	64,156	54,822 7 4	27,843 12 7	48,089 11 10	36,069 8 –	453,388 – –
	Equitable	365,653,000	42,298	36,931 14 7	17,553 15 3	25,543 16 7	30,000 – –	300,000 – –
	London	742,663,000	89,946	80,018 18 5	40,633 – 3	64,256 10 4	57,013 9 4	725,631 – –
	Totals	2,839,948,751	350,034	312,131 18 1	135,374 18 1	237,830 9 1	204,082 17 4	2,289,019 – –
	Averages – Per ton	8,113	–	– 17 10·98	– 7 8·84	– 13 7·06	– 11 7·92	6 10 1
	Averages – Per 1,000 cubic feet	–	–	– 26·20	– – 11·44	– – 20·10	– – 17·24	—
Cannel only.	Western	338,288,000	39,657	46,162 8 6	11,321 3 3	26,685 4 11	31,371 18 8	345,460 – –
	Averages – Per ton	8,530	–	1 3 3·37	– 5 8·52	– 13 5·49	– 15 9·84	8 14 2
	Averages – Per 1,000 cubic feet	–	–	– – 32·75	– – 8·03	– – 18·92	– – 22·25	—

Totals per 1,000 Cubic Feet Sold:

Coals	24·57 *d.*
Residuals	11·22
	13·35
General charges	18·46
	31·81
Statutory dividend and interest	16·20
	* 48·01 *d.*

Totals per 1,000 Cubic Feet Sold:

Coal and cannel	26·10 *d.*
Residuals	11·44
	14·76
General charges	20·10
	34·86
Statutory dividend and interest	17·24
	* 52·10 *d.*

Totals per 1,000 Cubic Feet Sold:

Cannel	32·75 *d.*
Residuals	8·03
	24·72
General charges	18·92
	43·64
Statutory dividend and interest	22·25
	* 65·89 *d.*

TOTAL – – – GENERAL CHARGES – – – – 685,732 *l.* 7 *s.* 7 *d.* – – } = 19 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.
,, – – – – GAS SOLD – – – – – 8,653,517,551 cubic feet – }
AVERAGE CAPITAL OF ALL THE COMPANIES – – – = 6 *l.* 7 *s.* 5 *d.* per ton carbonised.

* These figures differ slightly from those given in the Table put in by Mr. Cawley, June 18, in consequence of some of the Companies having corrected their returns of Coals and Gas.

0106.

J. T.

Appendix, No. 6.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Hawksley*, 19 June 1867.

LIST.

PAGE

Mr. Hughes' Plan for supplying London with Eighteen-candle Gas, at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 Cubic Feet - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 331

Dr. Frankland's Three Modes of supplying London with Gas of Eighteen-candle Illuminating Power, at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 Cubic Feet - - - - - - - 332

Mr. Stevenson's Plan for supplying London with Eighteen-candle Gas, at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 Cubic Feet - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 334

Mr. Clemenshaw's Estimate of the Cost of making Eighteen-candle Gas in London, as opposed to the Estimate of the Five Engineers representing the Metropolitan Companies - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 334

METROPOLIS GAS, 1867.

MR. HUGHES' PLAN

For Supplying London with Eighteen-Candle Gas at 3 s. 6 d. per 1,000 Cubic Feet.

Tons.	Cwt.	Memoranda. (*Questions from* 59 *to* 89).	Cost per 1,000 Cubic Feet.
1	–	Fifeshire Cannel will yield ~~12,500~~ 11,000 cubic feet of Gas, of 35-candles.	
1	–	Newcastle Coal „ ~~9,500~~ 10,000 „ „ 12 „	

Gas produced from ~~8~~ 8 ton Cannel and ~~7~~ 11 ton Coal as above :—

~~8~~ 8	~~3~~ –	Cannel - ~~12,500~~ 11,000 = ~~87,500~~ 88,000 at ~~85~~ × 30	= 2,640,000	
~~11~~ 11	~~7~~ –	Coal - ~~9,500~~ 10,000 = ~~66,500~~ 110,000 at 12 ~~× 7 = 84~~	= 1,320,000	
19		Produce - 198,000 gross		
		~~104,000~~	~~189 ÷ 10 = 18·90 candles.~~	
			198,000) 3,960,000	
		Deduct ~~$\frac{1}{8}$~~ $\frac{1}{6}$th for leakage - ~~13,000~~ 33,000	20 candles.	
			Deduct $\frac{1}{10}$ - - - 2	
19	–	Produce - 165,000	= 8,684 c. f. per ton of 18 candles.	
		~~91,000~~ Net quantity for sale.		

The cost of producing the above would be as follows, viz. :—

~~8~~ 8	~~3~~ –	Cannel - - 35 s. -	~~£. 5 5 0~~ 14 0 0	
~~11~~ 11	~~7~~ –	Coal - - ~~15 s.~~ 16 s. -	~~5 5 0~~ 8 16 0	
			~~£. 10 10 0~~ 22 16 0	
		Deduct—		
		Residual Products :		
~~4~~ 4	~~3~~ –	tons Cannel Coke, 5 s. - -	~~0 15 0~~ 1 0 0	
~~7~~ 7	~~7~~ –	„ Coal - - ~~8~~ 15 s. -	~~2 16 0~~ 5 10 0	
		Tar., am. liq., breeze, and sundries, 1½ per 1,000 ft. made -	~~3 11 0~~ 7 14 9	
			19) 15 1 3	19 tons of mixed
			~~£. 6 10 0~~ Net cost of ~~the~~ Coal, &c.	
			0 15 10 Net cost of one ton.	

				s. d.	
		Therefore 0 15 10 ÷ 8,684			
		~~10 ton £. 6 10 s. ÷ 10 = £. 0 13 s. 9 d. ÷ 9,100~~ cubic feet is, per 1,000 - -		~~13·33~~	21·87
		Add cost of manufacture per 1,000 cubic feet sold - - - -	19·25	12·	24·25
		Plus fuel for carbonising 1½ bushels, at 3½ = - - - - -	5		
		Net cost per 1,000 cubic feet of Gas sold - - - - - - - - -		~~2 6·33~~	46·12
£. 604,898	–	= Profit to pay the statutory dividend ~~of 10 per cent.~~ and the interest on borrowed capital per 1,000 cubic feet - - - -		~~0·69~~	16·77
8,653,517		Total cost including dividend - - - - - - - - - -		~~2 3·00~~	62·89

Capital to be at the rate of £. 4 per ton of Coals carbonised. The interest thereon as at present allowed, viz. 10 per cent.

Therefore $\frac{62{\cdot}89}{18}$ = 3·49 d. per candle.

But it must be observed that the cost of the Cannel is undoubtedly underrated, and that no allowance has been made for depreciation, or for the formation of a Reserve Fund, or for accidents, or for the diminution in the quantity of Gas to be consumed of a higher illuminating power.

$\frac{11}{30} = \frac{10}{20}$. $\frac{11}{12} = \frac{10\ 11}{20\ 12} = \frac{8\ 10}{10\ 11} = \frac{8}{11}$

$y \mid x = p \mid p''$

$v \mid v' = p'' \mid p'$

∴ The mixture must be 11 tons Newcastle, 8 tons Fifeshire Cannel

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, Session 1867.

DR. FRANKLAND'S

Three Modes of Supplying London with Gas of Eighteen-Candle Illuminating Power, at 3 s. 6 d. per 1,000 Cubic Fe

Extracted from the Minutes of Evidence, May 24th, 1867.

Tons.	Cwt.	1ST MODE. (*Questions from* 198 *to* 207.)	Cost per 1,000 Cubic Feet. £. s. d.	£. s. d.
1	–	Newcastle Coal will produce ~~10,000~~ 8,500 cubic feet of 15-candle-Gas. =	127,500	
–	13·6 7	Wigan Cannel „ „ ~~7,500~~ 6,667 „ 22 „ =	146,674	
1 2/3		Mixed Coals will produce 15,167 ~~17,500~~ 12,639 for sale. (15,167)	274,174	
		less 1/8 for losses - 2,528	18·07	
		Deduct 1/10	1·80	
		4 Volumes 15-candles = 60 / 3 „ 22-candles = 66 } 126 ÷ 7 = 18-candles.	16·27	
1	–	Ton Coal (average) cost ~~15 s. 3½ d.~~ 16 s. per ton - - £. s. d. 0 15 3½		
–	13·6 7	„ Cannel „ „ ~~25 s.~~ 27 s. „ - - 0 16 0 / 0 17 0 / 0 18 0		
		Total Cost of Coal - ~~1 12 3¼~~ 1 14 0 ÷ ~~17,500~~ 12,639 - -	~~0 1 10~~	d. 32·0
		Add *Working Expenses* (~~The lowest rate returned by the Metropolitan Companies in 1865, page 309~~) - - - - - - - - - - - - -	~~0 1 5½~~	19·25
		Gross cost per 1,000 cubic feet - - - - - - - - - - -	0 3 3½	51·25
		Deduct—*For Residual Products*, viz.:—		
		~~*Two-thirds*~~ *One* chaldron Newcastle Coke at ~~11 s.~~ 10 s. - £. s. d. ~~0 7 4~~		
		~~*Two-thirds* chaldron Cannel at 9 s.~~ - - - 0 10 0 / 0 6 0		
		Ammoniacal Liquor, Tar, &c. 15,167 × 1½ per 1,000 - - - 0 1 11 / 0 3 6		
		Total value of *products* - - ~~0 16 10~~ 0 11 11 ÷ ~~17,500~~ 12,639 - -	0 0 11½	11·24
		~~Net cost per 1,000 cubic feet of gas made~~ - - - - - - - - -		0 2 4
		~~Add *for Leakage, or unaccounted for Gas at 12½ per cent.*~~ - - - - -		~~0 0 4¼~~
		Net cost per 1,000 cubic feet of Gas sold - - - - - - - -		0 2 8¼ 40·01
		~~Net profit per 1,000 cubic feet~~ Dividend and Interest as before - - - -		0 0 9¾ 16·77
		Selling price per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, of 16·27 candles - - - -		0 3 6 56·78
		Capital to be allowed, £. 6. 6 s. for every ton of Coals. 1 ton 13·6 cwt. at £. 6. 6 s. per ton - - - £. 10. 8 s. 3 d.		
		Profit on 17,500 cubic feet, at 9¾ d. per 1,000, is £. 0. 14 s. 9½ d., at the rate of £. 6. 3 s. 1 d. per cent. on the Capital invested.		
		Therefore 56·78 / 16·27 = 3·49 d. per candle.		

Fuel 15 bushels, Wigan, per ton, carbonised.
∴ 13¾ × 1 2/3 = 20 bushels used.
30 × 2/3 = 20
0 „ made.
„ left for sale.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, 1867.

Mr. STEVENSON'S PLAN

For supplying London with Eighteen-Candle Gas at 3s. 6d. per 1,000 Cubic Feet.

Ton.	Cwt.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Cost per 1,000 Cubic Feet.
		MEMORANDUM.			
		(*Questions* 309 *to* 329.)			
1	–	Wigan Cannel, on the year's working will yield ~~10,200~~ 10,000 feet of Gas.			of 22 Candles at Works.
1	–	Newcastle Coal do. do. 9,500 do.			of 13 „ „
14		Wigan Cannel at 27 s. per ton - - - -	0 18 10	- - -	7,000 at 22 = 154,000
6		Newcastle Coal „ 16 s. „ - - - -	0 4 5		2,850 at 13 = 37,050
–		~~13~~ 13½ ~~12~~ Bushels Coke for fuel at ~~3 d.~~ 2·4 d. - -	~~0 3 0~~ 0 2 8	1 5 11	9,850)191,050
			~~1 6 3~~		19·4
–		DEDUCT *Residual Products, viz.:*—			Deduct $\frac{1}{10}$ 1·9
–		21 Bushels Wigan Coke at 2·4 d. - -	0 7 2		Candles in District 17·5
–		~~36~~ 10·8 Bushels Coke at ~~3 d.~~ 3½ d. - -	~~0 9 0~~		
–		4 „ Breeze - - - - -	0 0 2	0 8 7	
–		10 Gallons Tar - -	~~0 0 11~~	~~0 10 3~~	
–		10 × 1½ 10 „ Ammonia - - - -	0 1 3 ~~0 0 2~~		
1	–	Net Cost of one ton Coal and Cannel in the above proportions -		0 17 4 ~~0 16 0~~	
		10,000 7,000			
14		At ~~10,200~~ feet per ton gives ~~7,140~~			
6		„ 9,500 „ „ „ 2,850			
		9,850 17 s. 4 d.			
		~~9,000~~ at ~~16~~ s. is equal to per 1,000 - -		~~19·21~~	- - - 25·9
		Deduct ⅛ for loss = 1,641 = 8,209 for sale			
		~~Add loss by leakage, &c., 15 per cent.~~ - - „ - -		~~2·11~~	
		Manufacture and management - - - „ - -		~~19·61~~	19·25
					s. d.
		Net cost of Gas sold per 1,000 cubic feet - - - - - - - -			2 ~~0·93~~ 45·15
		~~Profit per 1,000 cubic feet~~ Statutory Dividend and Interest - - - - -			~~8 7~~ 16·77
		Selling price per 1,000 cubic feet - - - - - - - - - -			~~3 6 8~~ 61·92
		Capital. (297.)			Therefore 61·92
		One pound per head of the population, £ 3,000,000.			17·5 = 3·55 d. per Candle.
		(328.)			
		Quantity sold in London, as stated in the Correspondence, 9,000,000,000 cubic feet, which, at 8 d. per 1,000, gives exactly £ 300,000, or £ 10 per cent. on the proposed capital.			

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, Session 1867.

MR. CLEMENSHAW'S

ESTIMATE of the Cost of making Eighteen-Candle Gas in London, as opposed to the Estimate of the Five Engineers representing the Metropolitan Companies.

Ton.	Cwt.		Price per 1,000 Cubic Feet.
		MEMORANDUM.	
		(*Questions from* 600 *to* 643.)	
		The five Engineers estimate that—	
–	15	Wigan Cannel } Will produce together 9,875 cubic feet of 18-candle gas.	
–	5	Newcastle Coal }	
		Mr. Clemenshaw ~~estimates that~~—corrected stands thus	
			c. f. candles.
–	10	Wigan Cannel } Will produce ~~together 10,200 cubic feet of 19½-candle gas.~~	10,000 of 22 = 220,00
–	10	Newcastle Coal }	9,500 „ 13 = 123,50
			2)19,500 343,50
			9,750
			Mean at works, 17·6 can
			1/10th off - 1·7
			In district - 15·9

There is some error in this addition, but these are the figures in the evidence.

MR. CLEMENSHAW'S ESTIMATE.

Dr. Side—

		£. s. d.	
–	10	Wigan Cannel, at 27 s. - - - - -	0 13 6
–	10	Newcastle Coal, at 16 s. - - - - -	0 8 0
		13½ 2·4 d. per bushel	0 2 8
		~~12~~ bushels of Coke, at ~~5 s. per chaldron~~ - -	~~0 1 4~~
			1 4 2
		Making together - - - - -	£. ~~1 3 10~~

Cr. Side—

		0 3 0
Wigan Coke - - 15 bushels - - -		~~0 1 8~~
		0 5 0
Newcastle Coke - - ½ chaldron - - -		~~0 1 6~~
Tar - - - - - - - - - -		~~0 1 5½~~
9,750 at 1½ d. per 1,000		0 1 2½
Breeze - - - - - - - - -		~~0 0 2¼~~
Liquor - - - - - - - - -		~~0 0 1¾~~
		0 9 2½
		~~0 7 11½~~
Net cost of 1 ton of Coals - - - - - - - -		£. ~~0 14 10½~~
		0 14 11½

9,750 c. f, less 1/20 for loss = 8,125 net

The quantity produced would be ~~10,200 feet~~, costing per 1,000 - - - -	~~0 1 5½~~	22·1
The cost of making ~~12-candle Gas in the Engineer's estimate~~, is - - - -	~~0 0 11½~~	19·25
		41·35
Deducting one from the other, the actual excess of cost in London of producing 19½-candle Gas, is - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	~~0 0 6¼~~	
Statutory dividend and interest - - - -		16·77
		58·12
	Therefore	58·12
		15·9
		3·65 d. per candle.

(640). I have shown that the extra cost in London is 1 s. per 1,000 feet, and that if the arrangement alluded to with reference to the mains, were made, it could be reduced to 3 s. per 1,000 cubic feet for 12-candle Gas, and consequently that 18-candle Gas, (which I put down at 19½ nominally, but I call it 18-candle Gas), could be supplied at 3 s. 6 d per 1,000 cubic feet, the profit remaining precisely what it is now.

N.B.—The Engineers give the quantity per ton for Newcastle Coal at 9,500 *feet, but do not stute the quantity of Cannel.*

Mr. Clemenshaw gives neither one nor the other.

Mr. Clemenshaw adopts the figures of the Engineers as to prices of Cannel and Coal paid in London.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Hawksley*, 25 June 1867.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, 1867.

COST of GAS at the CONSUMER'S METER, of various Illuminating Powers, on the Basis of 9,600 cubic feet of 12-candle Gas being generated from One Ton of Newcastle Coal, and 9,600 cubic feet of 24-candle Gas being generated from One Ton of Wigan Cannel. The depreciation in transmission to the Testing-house being 1-10th of the normal Illuminating Power, and 8,000 cubic feet of the mixed Gases being sold for every Ton of Coals carbonised.

PARTICULARS OF MATERIALS.	14·0 Candles at Test House. 15·6 „ at Works.			15·0 Candles at Test House. 16·7 „ at Works.			16·0 Candles at Test House. 17·8 „ at Works.			17·0 Candles at Test House. 18·9 „ at Works.			18·0 Candles at Test House. 20·0 „ at Works.		
	Quantity.	Cost per Thousand Feet.		Quantity.	Cost per Thousand Feet.		Quantity.	Cost per Thousand Feet.		Quantity.	Cost per Thousand Feet.		Quantity.	Cost per Thousand Feet.	
Dr.	*Ton.*														
Newcastle Coal, per ton delivered - - 16 –	× ·7	28·95	- -	× ·61	30·43	- -	× ·52	31·92	- -	× ·43	33·40	- -	× $\frac{1}{3}$	35·00	
Wigan Cannel Coal „ „ - - - 27 –	× ·3			× ·39			× ·48			× ·57			× $\frac{2}{3}$		
	Bushels.														
Fuel, Newcastle Coke (36 bushels per ton of coal) per bushel consumed - - 3	× 4	3·75	- -	× 1½	3·56	- -	0	3·38	- -	0	3·38	- -	0	3·38	
Fuel, Wigan Coke (30 bushels per ton of coal) per bushel consumed - - 2	× 9			× 12			× 13½			× 13½			× 13½		
Cr. (Residual Products.)															
Newcastle Coke, per ton of coals carbonised - 9 –	× ·7	- -	11·70	× ·61	- -	11·16	× ·52	- -	10·62	× ·43	- -	10·08	× $\frac{1}{3}$	- -	9·50
Wigan Coke „ „ „ - 5 –	× ·3			× ·39			× ·48			× ·57			× $\frac{2}{3}$		
Breeze and other residual products, per ton of coals carbonised - - - - - 1 6	- -	- -	2·25	- -	- -	2·25	- -	- -	2·25	- -	- -	2·25	- -	- -	2·25
		32·70	13·95	- -	33·99	13·41	- -	35·30	12·87	- -	36·78	12·33	- -	38·38	11·75
Deduct residual products - - - -	- -	13·95	- -	- -	13·41	- -	- -	12·87	- -	- -	12·33	- -	- -	11·75	
Net cost of coal - - - - - -	- -	18·75	- -	- -	20·58	- -	- -	22·43	- -	- -	24·45	- -	- -	26·63	
Add expenses (actual) - - - - -	- -	19·25	- -	- -	19·25	- -	- -	19·25	- -	- -	19·25	- -	- -	19·25	
Net cost of production - - - - -	- -	38·00	- -	- -	39·83	- -	- -	41·68	- -	- -	43·70	- -	- -	45·88	
Add dividend and interest (actual) - - -	- -	16·77	- -	- -	16·77	- -	- -	16·77	- -	- -	16·77	- -	- -	16·77	
		54·77	- -	- -	56·60	- -	- -	58·45	- -	- -	60·47	- -	- -	62·65	
Add for diminished sale - - - - -	- -	- -	- -	16·77 × $\frac{1}{14}$	1·19	- -	16·77 × $\frac{2}{14}$	2·38	- -	16·77 × $\frac{3}{14}$	3·57	- -	16·77 × $\frac{4}{14}$	4·76	
	14)	54·77		15)	57·79		16)	60·83		17)	64·04	- -	18)	67·41	
		3·9 p' candle.			3·85 p' candle.			3·80 p' candle.			3·76 p' candle.			3·74 p' candle.	
		s. *d.*			*s.* *d.*			*s.* *d.*			*s.* *d.*			*s.* *d.*	
		4 6¾ per 1,000 ft.			4 9¾ per 1,000 ft.			5 –¾ per 1,000 ft.			5 4¼ per 1,000 ft.			5 7½ per 1,000 ft.	

Cost of 18-candle Gas - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 5 *s.* 7½ *d.*
Ditto 14 - ditto - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 4 *s.* 6¾ *d.*

4) 1 *s.* –¾ *d.*

Value of one candle in the range between 14 and 18 candles - - - - - - - 3¼ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet.
Therefore, cost of present 12-candle Gas, being very nearly the average result of the last year's working of all the Metropolitan Companies - - 4 *s.* 6¾ *d.* — 6½ *d.* = 4 *s.* –¼ *d.*

Appendix, No. 7.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, 1867.

SYNOPSIS of the OPERATIONS of the NOTTINGHAM GAS COMPANY, for the Year 1866, by *Thomas Hawksley*, Esq., C. E., as directed by the Select Committee of the House of Commons.

	£.
Shares issued and entitled to dividend at the rate of 5½ per cent.	235,000
Amount paid in shares and premiums	212,146
Loans on interest	36,210
Floating assets, estimated at	22,858
£.	271,210

Population (about) 150,000.
Mid-winter consumption per head (about) 14 cubic feet per day
Outlay per head (about) 1 *l.* 16 *s.*
Ditto per ton of coal carbonised (about) 6 *l.* 8 *s.*

Loss by leakage, &c.:—

1863-64	16·79 per cent.
1864-65	16·29 „
1865-66	14·16 „
Mean	15·75

Coals used, 4-5ths Midland and 1-5th Wigan Cannel.
Gas sold per ton of coals carbonised = 7,925 cubic feet.
Average cost of coals per ton, ex cost of discharging and stacking, 11 *s.* 10¾ *d.*
Illuminating power by Act of Parliament = 12 candles.
Ditto maintained in town = 16 candles.

Expense of production:

	d.	*d.*
1. Manufacturing department, wages and repairs, and materials for purification,—		
a. General expenses	13·19	
b. Less labour and carriage of coke and labour to coals	3·00	
		10·19
2. Distribution department, including renewal and maintenance of mains, services, and meters		3·91
3. Office department, rates and taxes, management and incidentals		2·27
	d.	
4. Coals	18·27	
Yard labour to ditto	1·00	
	19·27	
5. Residual products	8·73	
Less carriage and labour	2·00	
	6·73	
		12·54
Prime cost per 1,000 feet		28·91
6. Dividend at the rate of 5½ per cent. on the share capital	9·06	
7. Interest on loans	1·12	
		10·18
Prime cost and profit = 3 *s.* 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet =		39·09

If the dividend had been 10 per cent. on all the capital actually employed in the undertaking, the cost and profit would have amounted to a fraction more than 4 *s.* per 1,000 feet sold, or 3 *d.* per candle of illuminating power.

No allowance has been made in this statement for contingencies, deterioration or reserve fund.

The works have been recently much extended, but the effects of the extensions have not yet been fully developed.

Appendix, No. 8.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *Hope Scott*, 26 June 1867.

METROPOLIS GAS BILL, 1867.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the NET COST of a TON of COALS to the THIRTEEN METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANIES, for the Year 1866.

	EIGHT COMPANIES, SUPPLYING COMMON GAS ONLY.								FOUR COMPANIES, SUPPLYING BOTH COMMON AND CANNEL GAS.				One Company supplying Cannel Gas only.
	Commercial.	Great Central.	Imperial.	Independent.	Phœnix.	Ratcliff.	South Metropolitan.	Surrey Consumers.	Chartered.	City of London.	Equitable.	London.	Western.
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* – *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
Cost of Coals, per Ton -	17 4·81	15 5·87	16 5·90	17 2·52	15 9·72	16 4·25	15 2·99	15 1·19	18 3·16	17 1·09	17 5·55	17 9·51	23 3·37
Value realised by Products -	6 11·09	8 9·65	6 8·18	7 6·87	9 0·21	7 0·12	8 8·91	7 7·93	6 5·06	8 8·16	8 3·60	9 0·41	5 8·52
NET COST of Coals, per Ton - - -	10 5·72	6 8·22	9 9·72	9 7·65	6 9·51	9 4·13	6 6·08	7 5·26	11 10·10	8 4·93	9 1·95	8 9·10	17 6·85

I N D E X

TO

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
8 *August* 1867.

ANALYSIS OF INDEX.

ALPHABETICAL and CLASSIFIED LIST of the PRINCIPAL HEADINGS in the following INDEX, with the Paging at which they will respectively be found.

PAGE

Act of 1860 - 1
Dividends - 20
Illuminating Power - 29
Price - 41

Amalgamation of Companies - 2

Arbitration - 2

Board of Trade - 5

Brighton - 6

Burners - 7

CANNEL:
1. *As to the Supply* - 8
2. *As to the Price* - 8
3. *As to the Illuminating Power* - 9
4. *Other Details generally* - 10

Boghead Coal - 6
Capital - 10
Chartered Gas Company - 12
Coke - 16
Cost of Production - 18
Dalkeith - 19
Districting Arrangement - 19
Edinburgh - 21
Equitable Gas Company - 22
Glasgow - 24
Illuminating Power - 29
Manchester - 37
Price - 41
Salford - 47
Western Gas Company - 51

Capital - 10
Chartered Gas Company - 12
Equitable Gas Company - 22
Imperial Gas Company - 31
Nottingham - 39
Phœnix Gas Company - 40
Surrey Consumers' Gas Company - 49
Western Gas Company - 51

Chartered Gas Company - 12
Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill - 24
Leakage - 35
Mains - 37

COAL:
1. *As to the Supply and Price* - 15
2. *As to the Producing Power* - 16

Boghead Coal - 6
Cannel - 8
Coke - 16
Cost of Production - 18
Illuminating Power - 29
Price - 41

Coke - 17

PAGE

Competition - 17
Districting Arrangement - 19
Local or Independent Supply - 36
Metropolitan Board of Works - 38

Cost of Production - 18
Cannel Coal and Gas - 8
Capital - 10
Chartered Gas Company - 12
Coal - 15
Coke - 16
Equitable Gas Company - 22
Illuminating Power - 29
Imperial Gas Company - 31
Labour - 35
Leakage - 35
Management - 37
Manchester - 37
Nottingham - 39
Phœnix Gas Company - 40
Plymouth - 40
Residual Products - 45
Surrey Consumers' Gas Company - 49
Western Gas Company - 51
Working Expenses - 52

Districting Arrangement - 19

Dividends - 20
Back Dividends - 3
Brighton - 6
Capital - 10
Chartered Gas Company - 12
Equitable Gas Company - 22
Imperial Gas Company - 31
Phœnix Gas Company - 40
Surrey Consumers' Gas Company - 49
Western Gas Company - 51

Edinburgh - 21

Equitable Gas Company - 22
Leakage - 35
Mains - 37
Testing Arrangements - 50

Expenditure - 23
Cannel Coal and Gas - 8
Coal - 15
Cost of Production - 18
Distribution of Gas - 19
Districting Arrangement - 19
Illuminating Power - 29
Imperial Gas Company - 31
Labour - 35
Management - 37
Salaries - 47
Working Expenses - 52

Great Central Gas Consumers' Company - 24
Leakage - 35

Illuminating Power: PAGE

1. *Statements in Support of the Supply of* 18-*candle Gas, at* 3*s.* 6*d. per* 1,000 *Cubic Feet* - 29
2. *Objections on the part of the Gas Companies to the foregoing Proposition* - 29
3. *Loss of Illuminating Power during Conveyance through the Pipes; Causes thereof* 30
4. *Necessity of Manufacturing at a higher Standard than that prescribed for the Consumers* - 30
5. *Proposal by the Board of Trade for raising the Standard to* 16 *Candles* - 31
6. *Offer by the Companies to supply* 14-*candle Gas at* 4*s. per* 1,000 *Feet* - 31
7. *Other Details and Suggestions generally* - 31
8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - 32

Act of 1860 - 1
Arbitration - 2
Boghead Coal - 6
Brighton - 8
Burners - 7
Cannel - 9
Chemical Board - 12
Coal - 15
Cost of Production - 18
Districting Arrangement - 19
Equitable Gas Company - 22
Great Central Gas Consumers' Company - 24
Imperial Gas Company - 31
Manchester - 37
Provincial Towns - 44
Shale Oil - 48
Testing Arrangements - 50
Vestries - 50
Western Gas Company - 51

Imperial Gas Company:

1. *Former and present District supplied by the Company* - 31
2. *Great Extent of the Supply* - 31
3. *Capital and Rate of Dividend and Interest* 31
4. *Annual Receipts and Expenditure* - 32
5. *Price of Gas; Effect of Reductions* - 32
6. *Illuminating Power* - 32
7. *Particulars as to the Coal used* - 32
8. *Manufacturing Stations* - 32
9. *Prohibition of certain proposed Works* - 32
10. *Back Dividends* - 32
11. *Accounts and Returns* - 33
12. *Imperial Gas Bill* - 33

Leakage - 35
Mains - 37
Testing Arrangements - 50

Leakage (Unaccounted-for Gas) - 35
Dalkeith - 19
Edinburgh - 21
Mains - 37

Local or Independent Supply - 36
City of London - 14
Metropolitan Board of Works - 38

Mains - 37
Distribution of Gas - 19
Districting Arrangements - 19
Leakage - 35

Manchester - 37
Salford - 47

Metropolitan Board of Works - 38

Nottingham - 39

Phœnix Gas Company - 40
Leakage - 35
Mains - 37
Testing Arrangements - 50

Plymouth - 40

Price:

1. *Effect of the Act of* 1860; *Reductions since made* - 41
2. *Calculations as to the Price proper to be charged* - 41
3. *Absence of Increase of Consumption through Reduction of Price* - 42
4. *Necessity of fixing the Illuminating Power conjointly with the Price* - 42
5. *Question of a Graduated Scale of Prices* - 42
6. *Willingness of the Companies to supply* 14-*candle Gas at* 3*s.* 6*d. per* 1,000 *Cubic Feet* - 42
7. *Proposition of the Board of Trade as to Reduction of Price* - 42
8. *Prices of each Company in different Years* 42
9. *Maximum Price fixed by Local Acts of Parliament* - 42
10. *Comparison of the Prices in London and Provincial Towns* - 42
11. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - 43

Act of 1860 - 1
Appeal to Home Secretary - 2
Arbitration - 2
Brighton - 6
Cannel - 8
Chartered Gas Company - 12
Coal - 15
Coke - 16
Competition - 17
Cost of Production - 18
Districting Arrangement - 19
Dividends - 20
Edinburgh - 21
Equitable Gas Company - 22
Glasgow - 24
Hastings - 26
Illuminating Power - 29
Imperial Gas Company - 31
Manchester - 37
Nottingham - 39
Phœnix Gas Company - 40
Plymouth - 40
Provincial Towns - 44
Residual Products - 45
Rochdale - 46
Salford - 47
Surrey Consumers' Gas Company - 49
Vestries - 50
Western Gas Company - 51

Provincial Towns - 44

Residual Products - 45

Salford - 47

Surrey Consumers' Gas Company - 49
Leakage - 35

Testing Arrangements - 50

Vestries - 50
Local or Independent Supply - 36
Metropolitan Board of Works - 38

Western Gas Company - 51
Cannel - 8
Leakage - 35

I N D E X.

[*N.B.*—In this Index the Figures following the Names of the Witnesses refer to the Questions in the Evidence; those following *Ev. p.* to the Pages in the Evidence; those following *App.* to the Pages in the Appendix; and the Numerals following *Rep.* to the Pages in the Report.

A.

ABERDEEN. Recent increase in the price of gas at Aberdeen from 5*s.* 5*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Accounts. Improved form of accounts suggested by witness in 1860, and since adopted, *Beal* 958, 959——Importance of an improved system of audit of accounts, with a view to the proper apportionment of outlay between capital and revenue, *Hawksley* 4782, 4783——Willingness of the companies to accept the appointment of a public auditor, *Ev. p.* 263.

Annual statement of accounts, showing the actual state and condition of each company for the year 1866, *App.* 288-300.

Act of 1860:

Failure of the Act of 1860 to meet the just expectations of the public as regards illuminating power and price, *Beal* 915–917——Honest endeavours of the companies to carry out the provisions of the Act, *ib.* 916. 957——Statement that the Bill of 1860 was so altered on recommittal that the delegates would, but for the costs, have thrown it up; examination as to the grounds for this statement, *ib.* 918–923. 960 *et seq.*——Report of the Committee of 1860 in favour of an eight per cent. dividend and a graduated scale of prices, whereas a maximum price of 4*s.* 6*d.* and a ten per cent. dividend was afterwards substituted, *ib.* 920, 921. 943. 960–967.

Examination with reference to the part taken by witness, as delegate, in supporting the carrying on of the Bill of 1860, when shorn of its chief advantages; admission as to the Act having conferred some substantial benefits on the consumer, *Beal* 960-976. 995——Question further considered as to the advantages conferred by the Act of 1860, though it has fallen far short of the expectations of its promoters, *ib.* 1006–1032.

Copy of letter from Mr. Beal, dated 14th August 1860, referring to the Bill then before the House of Lords as a compromise, and as unsatisfactory in some respects, but urging the passing of the Bill, as conferring several important benefits upon the consumers, *p.* 82–84.

Large concessions made by the companies in return for the Act of 1860; admission, however, as to the benefit conferred by the Act in sanctioning the districting arrangement, *Innes* 1554–1565——Further statement as to the concessions made and received by the companies under the Act of 1860, *ib.* 1748–1755. 1774–1793. 1804–1806.

Reference to the legalisation of districting by the Act of 1860, as the consideration or concession made to the companies in return for the restrictions enforced in regard to price and illuminating power, *Baxter* 4629–4633——The Act of 1860 was the result of three years of Parliamentary inquiry, and was in fact a deliberate settlement of the question between the companies and the public, *ib.* 4634——Explanation of the circumstances under which the Bill of 1860 was re-committed, the chief reason having been the question of reducing the dividend from ten to eight per cent., *ib.* 4635–4637——Opposition made to the Bill in the House of Lords by one vestry only, the compromise previously accepted not being interfered with, *ib.* 4638, 4639.

Inference as to the very satisfactory working of the Act of 1860, every facility being given to make complaints, whereas practically none are made, *Baxter* 4650.

Examination relative to the proceedings on the 7th June 1860 before the Committee of that year, as regards the views entertained by that Committee upon the question of price, illuminating power, &c.; these views or impressions were materially modified as the inquiry went on, *Baxter* 4671, 4672. 4683, 4684.

Further statement to the effect that the Bill of 1860 was got up by the consumers or "delegates," but that after the proceedings before the Committee of the House of Commons the companies felt bound to offer no opposition to it in the Lords, *Baxter* 4673–4682.

Act of 1860—continued.

Statement by the Committee that the Act of 1860, and the arrangement sanctioned by that Act, have been eminently favourable to the companies, and have not been such as adequately to protect the consumers, *Ev. p.* 265.

Resumé by the Committee of the principal provisions of the Act, as regards districting, dividends, price, &c., *Rep.* v—viii——Entire insufficiency of the provisions in the Act as regards protection of the consumer, *ib.* viii, ix.

See also *Dividends. Illuminating Power. Price.*

Acts of Parliament (*Provincial Gas Companies*). Table showing the minimum illuminating power prescribed by various Acts of Parliament from 1856 to 1866, with the date of each Act and the maximum price, *App.* 323, 324.

Amalgamation of Companies. Examination upon the question whether an amalgamation of all the companies is not expedient as a means of preventing unnecessary mains and leakage, and thus reducing the cost and price of gas, *Cleminshaw* 645–670——More economical arrangements generally by an amalgamation of companies and a reduction of the number of mains, *ib.* 788–792——Saving of expense by a fusion of all the companies, *Finlay* 2921.

Statement in support of certain facilities being given to the companies to carry out voluntary amalgamation; amendment suggested hereon in Clause 3 of the Bill, *Baxter* 4967–4974.

Resolution of the Committee that the settlement must provide for the improved administration of the system by reduced expenditure; and the Committee think that by the amalgamation of some of the companies, and improved arrangements of the districts, that object may be easily attained, *Ev. p.* 262.

Willingness expressed by the companies to forward the principle of amalgamation, *Ev. p.* 263.

Provisions suggested on the part of the Board of Trade with regard to amalgamation, with a view to there not being more than four companies, *Ev. p.* 273.

Grounds submitted by the Committee for concluding that by a judicious amalgamation of the companies, and an adequate control over the expenditure, great economy may be effected, *Rep.* xi, xii.

Appeal to Home Secretary. Provisions in the Act of 1860 upon the subject of appeal to the Home Secretary in the event of rise in the price of gas, *Rep.* vi.

Arbitration. Correspondence between Mr. Baxter, for the Gas Companies, and Mr. Wyatt, for the Board of Trade, upon the question of arbitration, &c., *Ev. p.* 267–269.

Statement by the Committee that they intend the price should be so settled from time to time as to yield the maximum dividend, provided the companies exercise due care and management, *Ev. p.* 270.

Proposition submitted on the part of the Board of Trade in regard to arbitration and revision of price, *Ev. p.* 272, 273——Proposal that the arbitrator be appointed by the Board of Trade, and that his decision be given after hearing the companies and the local authorities, *ib.* 273.

Adoption by the Committee of the principle of arbitration proposed by the Board of Trade, *Ev. p.* 274.

Clause suggested by the Committee on the subject of the appointment of arbitrators, *Ev. p.* 281.

Amended clause proposed by the Board of Trade in regard to the operation of the arbitration clause and the question of dividend, *Ev. p.* 282——Modification of the foregoing proposition by the Committee, *ib.*——Refusal of the companies to accept the proposal of the Committee, or of the Board of Trade, in regard to making up deficiency of dividend, *ib.* 282, 283.

Conclusion of the Committee as to the important advantage to be attained by means of arbitration for settling periodically the price to be charged, *Rep.* xiv.

Explanation relative to the arbitration clause as proposed by the Board of Trade, as modified by the Committee, and as finally objected to by the companies; stop consequently put to the further progress of the Bill, *Rep.* xiv.

Arbroath. Recent increase, from 5*s.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*, in the price of cannel gas at Arbroath on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Arrears (*Gas Rents.*) Advantage of the abolition, by the Act of 1860, of the power of the companies to charge arrears upon the incoming tenant, *Beal* 995. 1017–1022.

Audit of Accounts. Expediency of the introduction of an improved system of audit, with a view to the proper apportionment of outlay between capital and revenue, *Hawksley* 4782, 4783.

Willingness of the companies to recognise the appointment of a public auditor, *Ev. p.* 263.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

B.

Back Dividends. Under the Act of 1847 there was no restriction as to back dividends, *Chubb* 3115.

Effect of the districting arrangement in leading to the payment, not only of the maximum dividend of ten per cent., but in many cases, to the payment also of back dividends, *Rep.* x——Disapproval of the system of back dividends, *ib.* xiv.

See also *Equitable Gas Company. Imperial Gas Company. Phœnix Gas Company. Surrey Consumers' Gas Company. Western Gas Company.*

Barber, Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is solicitor and secretary to the Western Gas Company, 3919, 3920——Acted as solicitor for the five companies who joined in the distributing arrangement of 1857; great difficulty experienced in arriving at a satisfactory arrangement, 3922–3926——Reference to some maps, showing the several districts and the companies supplying each previous to the arrangement of 1857; 3927–3931 ——Great advantage of the districting arrangement to the public as well as to the companies, 3932–3935.

Object of the arrangement to enable the companies to increase their dividends without raising the price, which otherwise would have been necessary, 3933——Effect of the arrangement as regards witness's company in curtailing the mains within a certain compass, thereby leading to much economy in working, 3936–3943——Enumeration by the districting deed of the several evils under the system previously in force; these were for the most part put an end to by the arrangement, 3945——Provision in the districting deed relative to the price as affected by the new arrangement, 3946.

Removal of surplus mains by the several companies parties to the districting, 3947–3949——Inaccuracy of a statement as to there being surplus mains in Regent-street and Piccadilly, 3950–3952——Exceptional circumstances under which some consumers had their prices raised under the districting, 3953——Due fulfilment by the Western Company of the obligations imposed upon it by the Act of 1860; 3954.

Payment by the Western Company of 32,000 *l.* since 1860, in respect of back dividends, whereas but for the limitation under the Act, there was a further arrear of 103,000 *l.* which might have been so paid, 3955–3962——Present charge of 5 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet for the gas supplied by the company, it being all cannel gas, and averaging 21 ½ candles in illuminating power, 3957——Reduction of the price from 6 *s.* to 5 *s.* 6 *d.* at Lady-day, 1855, without any previous agitation having led thereto, 3963–3966.

Advance to 26 *s.* per ton in the price of Wigan cannel, as recently bought by the company, the price for the year or two previous having varied from 21 *s.* 4 *d.* to 23 *s.*; 3967–3973. 4055–4061——Total of about 40,000 tons of coal used, of which ninety-three per cent. is Wigan cannel, 3980–3982——Use of some first-class cannel in winter in order to prevent the illuminating power suddenly going in time of frost, &c., 3974——Details as to the quantity of gas made and sold by the company, and the receipts and expenses under different heads, the result being a net profit of 23·66 *d.* per 1,000 feet, 3975-3997——Very small balance left in 1866 after paying the dividend of ten per cent., 3997-3999——Statement relative to the capital of the company, and the addition thereto since 1860, and since 1865; 4000–4002. 4032–4038. 4042–4054. 4088–4092.

Calculation that owing to the recent increase in the price of cannel and other causes, the dividend may be reduced to 7 ½ per cent., 4,004–4011——Increased cost by 1 ¼ *d.* per 1,000 feet on account of the lime purification about to be applied by the company, 4006, 4007. 4069–4071——Good market of the company for its coke, the price of which does not however follow the price of cannel, 4012–4014——Statement showing the various amounts of illuminating power fixed by the several Acts of Parliament since 1856; 4015, 4016.

Very high price paid for cannel at Inverness, the charge for gas being 7 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet, and the illuminating power being doubtless high, 4017–4021——Mention of several towns where the coal used for gas making is obtained at a very low price, 4022——Explanation relative to the supply of gas by witness's company to the public lamps in St. James's; due fulfilment of their contract in the matter, 4023–4031——Total of 107 miles of main belonging to the company, the number of consumers being 11,700; 4039–4041.

Statement as to the quantity of coal used by the company, and the quantity of gas produced in 1865 and 1866 respectively, 4062–4068. 4075–4077. 4093–4096——There was no re-construction of the works of the company in 1850 or 1851; 4072–4074——Inability of witness to state whether the consumers were dissatisfied with the districting arrangement, as leading to the necessary consumption in many instances of cannel gas at 6 *s.* in lieu of common gas at 4 *s.* 6 *d.*; 4078–4087.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Bartholomew, Hugh. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Gas engineer; is manager of the Glasgow City and Suburban Gas Company, which supplies only cannel gas, 4339–4341——Production of twenty-eight-candle gas at the works of witness's company, 4343, 4344——Deposit of hydro-carbons in the pipes throughout their entire distance, 4345–4347——Average of 14*s.* a ton paid for cannel in 1866, various kinds being used at very different prices, 4348–4350. 4415——Great advance lately in the price of cannel in Scotland, owing chiefly to the agitation in London upon the gas question, 4351, 4352. 4416.

Necessity of witness's company increasing their price by 10 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, on account of the increased price of cannel, 4353–4356——Great difference at different times in the quality of coals from the same seams, 4357, 4358——Particulars relative to the quantity of coals used and of gas made by witness's company, the expenses under various heads, the receipts for residual products, and the net cost per 1,000 feet of gas, 4359–4375. 4402–4419——Dividend of ten per cent. paid upon portion of the capital, 4374. 4406——Total capital of the company, and proportion per ton of coal carbonised, 4374. 4400–4402.

Grounds for concluding that there is nothing extravagant in the working of the Western Company in London, 4376–4390——Degree of competition between witness's company and another company at Glasgow, there being, however, an understanding as to price; advantage to the companies if there were a districting arrangement, as in London, 4391–4399. 4428–4430——Very little difference in the amount of capital required for cannel gasworks, and for common gasworks respectively, 4423–4426.

Baxter, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence)—Submits a tabular statement containing statistics as to the capital, dividends, &c. of the several companies, 4625–4628——Refers to the legalisation of districting by the Act of 1860, as the consideration or concession made to the companies in return for the restrictions enforced in regard to price and illuminating power, 4629–4633——The Act of 1860 was the result of three years of Parliamentary inquiry, and was, in fact, a deliberate settlement of the question between the companies and the public, 4634.

Explanation of the circumstances under which the Bill of 1860 was recommitted, the chief reason having been the question of reducing the dividend from ten to eight per cent., 4635–4637——Opposition made to the Bill in the House of Lords by one vestry only, the compromise previously accepted not being interfered with, 4638, 4639.

Absence of any application to the Home Office since 1860 for a modification of the districts under the Act, 4640——Single instance of an application to the Home Secretary, upon the question of purity; prompt remedy applied in this case, 4641. 4647——Facility given by the Act in regard to legal proceedings against the companies, 4642–4645.

Willingness of the companies to pay any penalties out of dividends, 4648——Readiness expressed by the companies to supply fourteen-candle gas at 4*s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, subject to modification from time to time, 4649, 4650——Inference as to the very satisfactory working of the Act of 1860, every facility being given to make complaints, whereas, practically, none are made, 4650——Facility of carrying out inquiries into the quality of the gas, 4651, 4652.

Examination relative to the discussion before the Committee of last Session, on 8th May, upon the question of illuminating power, purity, &c.; the Bill of the Corporation was eventually thrown out, without the companies having been called upon to give any evidence against it, 4653–4659.

Inaccuracy of a certain statement by Mr. Beal, as to the water companies having had their capital reduced in the Session of 1852; 4660–4665——Absence of any instance of interference with capital once recognised by Parliament, 4666——Nor is witness aware of any case of limitation of price by Parliament with reference to the dividend being calculated upon a reduced capital, 4667, 4668.

Examination relative to the proceedings on the 7th June 1860, before the Committee of that year, as regards the views entertained by that Committee, upon the question of price, illuminating power, &c.; these views, or "impressions" were materially modified as the inquiry went on, 4671, 4672. 4683, 4684——Statement to the effect that the Bill of 1860 was got up by the consumers or "delegates," but that after the proceedings before the Committee of the House of Commons, the companies felt bound to offer no opposition to it in the Lords, 4673–4682.

[Second Examination.] Statement in support of certain facilities being given to the companies to carry out voluntary amalgamation; amendment suggested hereon in Clause 3 of the Bill, 4967–4974.

Beal, James. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Has taken an active part, on behalf of the vestries, in the gas question, both previously to, and since the Act of 1860; 912–914——Failure of the Act of 1860 to meet the just expectations of the public as regards illuminating power and price, 915–917——Honest endeavour of the companies to carry out the provisions of the Act, 916. 957——Omission of the vestries to carry out any of the duties

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Beal, James. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

duties which the Act imposed upon them, 916——Want of sufficient analyses, in order to prove the low illuminating power, 916, 917.

Especial importance attached to a re-arrangement of the companies' capital accounts, as in the case of the water companies in 1852; 916. 936-942. 957——Claim of the vestries to a municipal supply of gas, as in Manchester, 916——Statement that the Bill of 1860 was so altered on re-committal, that the delegates would, but for the costs, have thrown it up; examination as to the grounds for this statement, 918-923. 960 *et seq.*

Report of the Committee of 1860 in favour of an eight per cent. dividend, and a graduated scale of prices, whereas a maximum price of 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, and a ten per cent. dividend were afterwards substituted, 920, 921. 943. 960-967 —— Approval of one standard of 18-candle gas for the whole metropolis, 924, 925. 932, 933——Numerous vestries or district boards represented by witness, in the opinion that there should be one standard of illuminating power at a fair price, as a protection against the monopoly under the districting arrangement, 926-935.

Conclusion that a price of 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet would be a fair price for 18 candle gas; reference hereon to offers of the Corporation of London and of the Metropolitan Board to supply at that price, 934, 935. 978-994——Expediency of a chemical board for checking the quality, as supplied to the public, 944——Amendment required in the Act of 1860, as regards arbitration in the event of disputes about the price of supply of the public lights, 945-948.

With regard to the appointment of a chemical board, witness was not aware that this had been suggested by the companies last year, 949-954—— Reference to the willingness of the companies to substitute the Metropolitan Board for the vestries, with respect to chemical analyses, &c., 955, 956——Improved form of accounts suggested by witness in 1860, and since adopted, 958, 959.

Examination with reference to the part taken by witness, as delegate, in supporting the carrying on of the Bill of 1860, when shorn of its chief advantages; admission as to the Act having conferred some substantial benefits on the consumer, 960-976. 995. 1006-1034——Preference for the graduated scale of prices in the Bill, as introduced by Sir Stafford Northcote, rather than the price of 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, as approved of by the Corporation and the Metropolitan Board, 978-981——Expediency of the consumers generally concurring in the views of the Metropolitan Board, and of the Corporation in favour of 18-candle gas, at the price of 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, 984-994.

Advantage of the abolition by the Act of 1860, of the power of the companies to charge arrears upon the incoming tenant, 995. 1017-1022 —— Considerable benefit experienced by the consumers, through the reduction in price, since the Act of 1860; 995. 1010-1012 —— Difficulty of reduction where the capitals are excessive, 996—— Statement as to the Equitable Company having converted a large amount of debenture stock into capital stock; belief as to this having been in evasion of the Act of Parliament, 996-1005—— Question further considered as to the advantages conferred by the Act of 1860, though it has fallen far short of the expectations of its promoters, 1006-1032.

Copy of letter from Mr. Beal, dated 14th August 1860, referring to the Bill, then before the House of Lords, as a compromise, and as unsatisfactory in some respects, but urging the passing of the Bill as conferring several important benefits upon the consumers, *Ev. pp.* 82-84.

Bell, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is manager of the Corporation Gasworks at Rochdale, 1035-1037——Supplies sundry particulars relative to the cost of production of gas at Rochdale, showing that 21-candle gas costs 2 *s.* 8½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet at the consumer's meter, 1038-1064——Grounds for concluding that 18-candle gas may be supplied at 3 *s.* 3 *d.*, leaving a return of nine per cent. on the capital, 1065-1079——Unduly large sum given for the works at Rochdale by the Corporation, 1079-1086. 1108 ——Increase of late in the price of cannel and other coal used at the works, whilst the value of the residual products has not risen, 1089-1107.

Board of Trade. Witness, as agent for the Bill before the Committee, supplies some explanations on the subject of certain correspondence and negotiations between the promoters and the gas companies, *Wyatt* 1-20.

Statement by counsel for the Board of Trade that the department did not interfere with regard to price or illuminating power, but left these questions in the hands of the Committee, *Ev. p.* 263.

Representation by the Committee to the counsel for the Bill as to the propriety of the Board of Trade taking an active part in bringing the question of price and illuminating power into distinct form before the Committee, *Ev. p.* 265.

Communication from Mr. Wyatt, dated 15th July 1867, relative to the questions of price,

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Board of Trade—continued.

price, arbitration, &c., and the views of the Board of Trade on the subject, *Ev. pp.* 267, 268.

Heads of arrangement with the Board, as amended 18th July 1867, in regard to price illuminating power, &c., *Ev. pp.* 272, 273.

Remarks by the Committee upon the circumstances under which the Board of Trade appeared as the party promoting the Bill, *Rep.* ix.——Reference to the arrangement between the Board and the companies, by which the former was bound not to proceed with the Bill, unless the provisions as to ten per cent. were retained on the same basis and on the same terms as they appear in clause 30 of the Act of 1847, *ib.*

Boghead Coal. Very high illuminating power of the gas obtained from Boghead coal, *Reid* 2424–2427——Boghead has at least twice the illuminating power of Wigan cannel, and produces gas of upwards of forty candles, *Brothers* 2711–2714——Means of producing 13,000 or 14,000 cubic feet of gas of forty to fifty candles from a ton of boghead, the number of candles varying with the different quality used, *Campbell* 4488–4495. 4517–4520——Objection to the use of boghead as not producing coke of any value, whilst the liquid residual products are worth very little, *ib.* 4490. 4495–4499——Available supply of boghead adverted to; very high price per ton, *ib.* 4490, 4491. 4514–4516.

Brighton. Circumstance of the Brighton Gas Company being now limited to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* for fourteen-candle gas; doubt as to the dividend being reduced in consequence, *Hughes* 117–123.

Reference to the Brighton Gas Bill of 1866, as limiting the price to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet, the illuminating power having been fixed at fourteen sperm candles, *Stevenson* 281–284——With reference to the competing company, at Brighton, who got their Bill last Session, their works have not yet been commenced, *ib.* 301, 302——Question considered as to the effect of the reduced price of the Brighton and Hove Company in reducing the dividend, *ib.* 425–432.

Evidence as to the circumstances under which the Brighton Company (for which witness is engineer) got its Bill last Session, the price having been fixed at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, both for witness's company and the Brighton and Hove Company, *Stevenson* 416–424.

Several reductions made by the Brighton and Hove General Gas Company in the price of their gas down to June 1866; further reduction then made, from 4 *s.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, in consequence chiefly of the rival Bill before Parliament, *Paddon* 1231–1240. 1250–1269. 1290–1292——Statement to the effect that, owing to the reduction of 6 *d.* in the price, the greater cost of coal, and the less value of the residual products, the earnings were reduced from ten per cent. to 3¼ per cent. in the last half-year of 1866, *ib.* 1244–1248. 1270–1286. 1293–1302——Payment of a dividend at the rate of five per cent. per annum, in the half-year to 31st December last, it being necessary to draw from a reserve fund for the purpose, *ib.* 1274, 1275. 1302——Smaller working expenses than usual in the half-year in question, *ib.* 1276–1278. 1293–1300.

Brothers, Horatio. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer to the Equitable Gas Company; was formerly engaged at the Salford Gas Works, 2577–2579——Establishment of the Equitable Company in 1830, it having been incorporated in 1842; 2580——Expenditure of about 250,000 *l.* on capital account, there having been no increase of capital since 1860; 2581–2584——Supply by the company of both cannel gas and common gas from their station at Pimlico, 2585–2587.

Low rate of dividend in former years, whereas, since the districting arrangement the dividends have increased to ten per cent., and the back dividends have all been made up except by about 22,000 *l.*, 2588–2594. 2603–2617. 2622, 2623. 2757–2759——Total rental of the company in 1866, the net profits having been 33,000 *l.*, 2595–2598——Reduction made in the price at Midsummer 1865; 2599–2602——Non-payment of any back dividend in 1866; 2617–2678——Explanation relative to the illuminating power given by the company as regards cannel gas and common gas respectively; excess provided beyond the requirements of the Act of Parliament, 2619–2621. 2644. 2679–2685.

Erection by the company of a testing house as provided by the Act, the examination of the gas not having resulted in any proceedings against the company, 2624–2631——Every economy is taken in the manufacture and distribution of the gas, 2632–2634——Difficulty in paying ten per cent. last year, owing to the increased price of coal, 2635–2643——Circumstance of the rise in the price of coal having been accompanied by a fall in the value of the residual products, 2639–2642. 2733–2740.

Explanation as to witness not being able to separate the cost of manufacture of the cannel gas from that of the common gas, 2645–2651. 2752–2754——Greater waste of cannel gas than of common gas, 2652, 2653——Total of fourteen per cent. as the unaccounted-for gas, including not only leakage but loss by defective meters, &c., 2654–2661——Calculation that it would cost an additional 1 *s.* 2 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet to supply

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Brothers, Horatio. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

supply 18-candle gas instead of 12-candle gas, 2662–2667——Loss of all profit if the Equitable Company were required to supply 18-candle gas at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, 2668, 2669——Slight effect of reduction of price upon the consumption, 2670–2677.

Explanation relative to the burner used by witness's company in 1860 and at the present time, 2679–2685. 2727, 2728——Inability of the company to reduce their losses from leakage by reason of any duplicate or superfluous mains, 2686–2692——Large pressure in the mains of the company during the day, and consequent loss of gas, 2693–2695——Large quantity of cannel coke required to be used in connection with 18-candle gas, 2698, 2699.

Evidence as to the proportion of cannel required in order to produce 18-candle gas; dissent from Mr. Cleminshaw's calculations hereon, 2700–2708——Quantity of cannel and of coal used by the Equitable Company, total cost thereof, amount of gas produced and sold, and sum received, including residual products, 2709–2724——Requirement of a profit of 1 *s.* 7½ *d.* per 1,000 feet of gas sold in order to pay a dividend of ten per cent., 2725, 2726.

Statement of the illuminating power, price, &c. of the gas at Salford when witness was engaged at the Salford Gas Works; considerable increase in the price of labour since that period, 2741–2751——Advantage to the Equitable Company if required to supply only cannel gas at 5 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet, 2754–2756.

Burners. Statement that, owing to the improved burner used in London since 1860, there has been an addition of nearly two candles to the illuminating power, *Stevenson* 360–369——Increased illuminating power of the same gas through the improved burner now in use, *Clift*, 879. 901–903.

Explanation as to the burners used by the Phœnix Company; they are very similar to those used ten years ago, *Innes* 1473, 1474. 1477——Examination with further reference to the present and former burners used by the Phœnix Company in testing the illuminating power; use at three stations of burners of the same construction as are used by Dr. Letheby, *ib.* 1643–1671.

Evidence relative to the burners now in use in the Chartered Company's district as compared with those in use before 1860; denial that the present burner is more favourable than the former in regard to the illuminating power produced, *Evans* 1887–1912——Explanation relative to the burner used by witness's company in 1860 and at the present time, *Brothers* 2679–2685. 2727, 2728——Very different effect of different burners though apparently alike, *Finlay* 2831–2833.

Very little difference between the burners now used by the Imperial Company and the burners at the time of passing of the Act of 1860, *Kirkham* 3417, 3418——Further information relative to the former and present burners used by the company and the similarity between them, *ib.* 3528–3532.

Examination to the effect that witness's improved burner now in use in London is the same as that used in 1860, with the exception that the new burner has a steatite top instead of an iron top, *Sugg* 3887–3915.

Bush, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is accountant of the Chartered Gas Company, 1951, 1952——Total of 315,053 *l.* as the receipts of the company in 1866, the working expenses having been 244,201 *l.*, and the net balance 70,852 *l.*, 1953–1957——Average of about 14 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet as the rate of profit upon the gas sold, 1958–1963——Sale of 175,282 *l.* worth of common gas and of 58,152 *l.* of cannel gas; doubt as to the cost or profit in each case separately, 1964–1968. 1981–1983. 2083.

Total of 810,000 *l.* as the capital of the Chartered Company, of which 150,000 *l.* has been subscribed since 1860; 1969, 1970——Necessity of about 16 *d.* profit per 1,000 feet of gas sold in order to admit of a dividend of ten per cent. on 810,000 *l.*, 1975–1980——Rate of dividend paid paid by the company in each year since 1858; 1987–1989——Payment of 8¾ per cent. in 1866, the actual earnings, however, having been only 7½ per cent., 1989–1990——Profit realised upon a contract for boghead coal which raised the dividend in 1866 to 8¾ per cent., 1990. 2013–2024. 2070.

Reduction or prices at Christmas 1865, though there was no legal obligation to do so, 1991, 1992——Non-formation of any reserve fund under the Act of 1847, there being, however, a contingency fund of about 20,000 *l.*, 1993–2012——Examination relative to the directors' allowances and the salaries of the secretary, clerks, &c., in 1864 and 1866; annual increase in some of the salaries, 2031–2056. 2071–2082——Total of 140,358 *l.* paid for coals and cannel in 1866, the residual products having realised 49 344 *l.*, 2057–2065——Power of the company to raise further capital to the amount of 90,000 *l.* under their Act of 1823; 2084–2087.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

C.

Campbell, Dugald. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Analytical chemist; has paid much attention to the manufacture and purification of gas, 4431-4434——Inability of witness to obtain more than about 9,000 cubic feet of gas of twelve candles from a ton of Newcastle coal, 4434——Dissent from certain evidence of Dr. Frankland as to the admission of air into gas pipes where there is an escape of gas, and as to the effect upon the illuminating power, 4435-4438. 4486, 4487.

Statement as to the deposit of hydro-carbon in gas pipes taking place as far as the gas is carried; result of experiments by witness on the subject at a distance of six miles from the works, 4439-4458. 4478-4484. 4521-4524——Greater tendency to the deposit of hydro-carbons, and the consequent loss of illuminating power in the case of cannel gas than of ordinary gas, 4440-4442——Witness produces some samples of oils deposited from cannel gas; almost valueless character of these and of the liquid products generally at the present time, 4458-4471. 4476, 4477. 4478-4485——Improved system of manufacture and purification at the works of the Western Gas Company, 4474, 4475.

Means of producing 13,000 or 14,000 cubic feet of gas of forty to fifty candles from a ton of boghead, the number of candles varying with the different quality used, 4488-4495. 4517-4520——Objection to the use of boghead as not producing coke of any value, whilst the liquid residual products are worth very little, 4490. 4495-4499——Available supply of boghead adverted to; very high price per ton, 4490, 4491. 4514-4516.

Large production per ton and high illuminating power of Leeswood cannel; the supply, however, is very limited, 4506-4508. 4513——Considerable production also per ton of Wigan cannel, 4507-4509——Opinion favourable to the encouragement of cannel gas, 4512.

CANNEL:

1. *As to the Supply.*
2. *As to the Price.*
3. *As to the Illuminating Power.*
4. *Other Details generally.*

1. *As to the Supply:*

Examination in support of the conclusion as to the supply of Scotch cannel being ample for many years to come, supposing a large increase in the consumption in London, *Hughes* 147-163——Belief as to there being ample supplies of cannel coal, *Stevenson* 349, 350——Use at Manchester of about two-thirds of cannel to one-third of other coal, there being now no difficulty in obtaining the required supplies of cannel, *Heron* 506-512. 538-540——Various sources whence cannel coal may be had in ample quantities, *ib.* 596-599.

Estimate of from 300,000 to 400,000 tons of cannel as the quantity to be required in London in order to obtain 18-candle gas, *Cleminshaw* 766, 767——Belief as to there being ample supplies of Wigan or other cannel obtainable whilst the price of 27 *s.* per ton as given by the companies is fully sufficient to procure it, *ib.* 767-779.

Witness, who is interested in the sale of the Marquis of Lothian's cannel, states that no scarcity of this coal is apprehended, *Romans* 793-796——Statement as to the quantities of Scotch cannel supplied through witness to different London gas companies; check to this supply through the increased prices, *M'Kelvey* 1170. 1175-1213. 1223-1225.

Small proportion of cannel coal raised in England, the total quantity not being more than one or one-and-a-half per cent. of the entire product of coal, *Elliott* 3673, 3674——Infinitesimal proportion of cannel obtained from the Welsh coal fields, *ib.* 3677, 3680——Production of some cannel in Durham, the proportion, however, not being a quarter per cent. of the whole product of coal in the county, *ib.* 3677, 3678——Use of about one-fourth of the cannel for oil making, *ib.* 3675, 3676.

2. *As to the Price:*

Prices paid by the Western Gas Company for Lancashire cannel; difficulty in ascertaining the price per ton from the published returns of the total quantities and cost, *Hughes* 164-169. 174-177——Witness is not aware that the price of cannel is continuously increasing, *ib.* 168, 168*——Price of cannel coal at Manchester adverted to as being much lower than in London, *Heron* 541-546——Assumption of 27 *s.* per ton as the cost of Wigan cannel, *Cleminshaw* 639——Increase since last year in the price of Lothian cannel and of Newcastle coal in the London market, so that the estimate then made by witness that ten per cent. profit might be realised at the price of 3 *s.* 6 *d.* would not hold good at the present time, *Romans* 800-810——Statement as to the great increase which has taken place in the price of different kinds of Scotch cannel coal, such increase being chiefly owing to the probable exhaustion of the coal fields, *Williamson* 1112 *et seq.*——Large increase, more especially in the price of Torbenhill coal, some of this coal being sent

to

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Cannel—continued.

2. *As to the Price*—continued.

to London for gas purposes, its main use, however, being for distilling into oil, *Williamson* 1116–1121. 1133–1144.

Particulars as to the increase of price of Lismahagow, Boghead, and other cannel within the last three years; rise of 3 *s.* or 4 *s.* per ton within the last six or eight months, *M'Kelvey* 1150–1164. 1170–1174. 1188–1213. 1223–1227——Great increase in the price of cannel, if common coal were not used for gas, *Innes* 1772, 1773——Increased price of Lothian cannel beyond that stated by Mr. Hughes, *Henderson* 2166——Gradual increase experienced in the price of cannel, owing to its increased use for gas, *ib.* 2171–2174.

Particulars as to the increase of prices charged for gas in various towns of Scotland, owing to the enhanced price of cannel, *Reid* 2322–2329. 2414–2418—— Details as to the available supply and the prices of the several cannels; considerable increase of prices, owing to the increased demand for gas making, and other causes, *ib.* 2347 *et seq.*—— Advance of 11 *s.* 6 *d.* per ton in the price of Lismahagow cannel within the last year or so, *ib.* 2349–2355——Difficulty experienced by witness's company (at Edinburgh) early in the present year, in making contracts for cannel; prices eventually agreed upon, *ib.* 2371–2387. 2393–2397——Further increase in the price of Scotch cannel, if used by the London companies in order to produce 18-candle gas, 2390, 2391.

Rapid increase, for several years past, in the price of cannel coal in Scotland whilst the growing demand in London will surely enhance the price still further, *Young* 2527–2542 —— Rise of about thirteen per cent. in the price of cannel since January 1865, *Chubb* 3096, 3097——Increased price paid at Salford for Wigan cannel under the present contract, *Halls* 3712–3715——Use of common coal at Salford, on account of the advancing price of cannel, and the difficulty of getting the required supply, *ib.* 3722–3732.

Advance to 26*s.* per ton in the price of Wigan cannel, as recently bought by the Western Company, the price for the year or two previous having varied from 21*s.* 4*d.* to 23*s.*, *Barber* 3967–3973. 4055–4061——Total advance of about 4 *s.* per ton in the price of Wigan cannel, in London, within the last few years, *Pritchard* 4101–4104—— In January last the Western Company took a small contract of Rosebridge or Wigan cannel, at 25*s.* 6*d.*, whereas they had previously been paying 23*s.* and 21*s.* 6*d.*, *ib.* 4102–4104——Inability of the Western Gas Company to procure cannel from North Wales on satisfactory terms, *ib.* 4105, 4106——Larger quantity represented by the colliery weight allowed for cannel when the price was lower, the "ingrain" being now much less than was formerly allowed, *ib.* 4217, 4218.

Great advance lately in the price of cannel in Scotland, owing chiefly to the agitation in London upon the gas question, *Bartholomew* 4351, 4352. 4416.

3. *As to the Illuminating Power:*

Consideration of the amount of Lothian cannel required to bring the illuminating power of gas in London up to eighteen candles, *Hughes* 147–163——Great inferiority of the Lancashire cannel to the Scotch cannel, *ib.* 166——Excellent illuminating power and pure quality of the cannel coal used in Edinburgh and Glasgow, *Stevenson* 351, 352.

Production of 19 ½-candle gas by using one-half of Wigan cannel and one-half of Newcastle coal, *Cleminshaw* 639. 641——Statement that there is only one small seam of Wigan coal which produces inferior gas, *ib.* 690——Experience of the use of cannel at Manchester adverted to in support of the conclusion that half cannel and half Manchester coal will make 18-candle gas as used by the consumer, *ib.* 691–712——Production of 13-candle gas by Newcastle coal, whilst Wigan coal produces 26 candles, *ib.* 763–765.

The illuminating power of the Lothian cannel is more than thirty-three candles, and the production is 12,500 cubic feet to the ton, *Romans* 797–799——Illuminating power of eighteen candles given by a mixture of three-tenths of Scotch cannel, and seven-tenths of Newcastle coal, *Clift* 822–826——Estimate of 12,000 cubic feet of gas to be produced from a ton of Scotch cannel, and of 9,200 cubic feet from a ton of Newcastle coal, *ib.* 824.

Practice of witness's company to supply uniformly 14-candle gas, some cannel coal being necessary for the purpose, *Innes* 1472. 1478——Data for witness's calculations as to the illuminating power of cannel and of Newcastle coal respectively, and as to the quantity of gas produced per ton, *ib.* 1676–1683. 1697–1707——Specially selected cannel may produce from 30 to 32-candle gas, *ib.* 1700.

Better description of cannel required in winter than in summer to produce the same illuminating power, *Reid* 2252–2254; *Young* 2505–2507——Classification of Scotch cannels into three descriptions with reference to the illuminating power of the gas produced, *Reid* 2332–2346——Evidence as to the proportion of cannel required in order to produce 18-candle gas; dissent from Mr. Cleminshaw's calculations hereon, *Brothers* 2700–2708——Necessity of 75 per cent. of Wigan cannel in order to produce 18-candle gas, *Kirkham* 3448–3455——Use principally by the Great Central Company of Lees-

Report, 1867—*continued.*

CANNEL—continued.

3. *As to the Illuminating Power*—continued.

wood cannel from Wales, the illuminating power produced being about twenty-one candles, and the price in 1866, 21 *s.* per ton; doubt as to the supply available, *Harris* 3619–3625. 3643. 3665–3670——Variation in the illuminating power of the Wigan cannel, *Elliott* 3671, 3672.

Yield of about 10,500 cubic feet of gas by a ton of Wigan cannel, the illuminating power being about twenty-two candles, *Halls* 3696, 3697——Inability of witness to produce the amount of illuminating power referred to in the evidence of Mr. Heron and Mr. Cleminshaw from the use of certain proportions of cannel, *ib.* 3702–3711——Use of some first-class cannel, by the Western Company in winter, in order to prevent the illuminating power suddenly going down in time of frost, &c., *Barber* 3974——Use by the Western Gas Company, chiefly of Rosebridge and Kirkless coal from the Wigan cannel pits in order to produce 20-candle gas, *Pritchard* 4107–4110.

Requirement of nearly all, if not entirely all, cannel to make gas of 20-candle power, as supplied to consumers, *Rofe* 4280, 4281——Considerable variation in the illuminating power derivable from cannel obtained from different localities, *ib.* 4283, 4284. 4295–4299. 4333, 4334——Means of producing 24-candle gas from the best picked Lancashire cannel; witness has never known 26-candles produced, *ib.* 4300–4306——Great difference at different times in the quality of coals from the same seams, *Bartholomew* 4357, 4358.

Large production per ton and high illuminating power of Leeswood cannel; the supply, however, is very limited, *Campbell* 4506–4508. 4513——Considerable production per ton of Wigan cannel, *ib.* 4507–4509——Inaccuracy of Mr. Hughes's calculation, that 18-candle gas may be produced from three tons of cannel and seven tons of coal, *Hawksley* 4710–4716.

4. *Other Details generally:*

Several patents before the public for the substitution of other materials for cannel, *Hughes* 150——Advantage of cannel gas, on the score not only of illuminating power but of purity, *Hughes* 187, 188; *Frankland* 206–215——Statement as to there being a saving of thirty-three per cent. of light by passing the common gas through the cannel gas retorts, instead of making each gas separately, *ib.* 197–199——Calculation showing that the cost of a light of 1,000 candles from Wigan cannel, is just the same as the cost of a similar light from Newcastle coal, *ib.* 201 ——Increased advantage in using cannel, or such coal accordingly as the distance increases over which the coal is carried, for manufacture into gas, *ib.* 202–205.

Materials available for increasing the illuminating power, irrespectively of the use of cannel coal; favourable experiments being made on this score, *Stevenson* 340–348. 370–378 ——Considerable amount of impurity in some kinds of cannel, *Innes* 1518——Advantage to the Equitable Company if required to supply only cannel gas at 5*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, *Brothers* 2754–2756——Opinion favourable to the encouragement of cannel gas, *Campbell* 4512.

See also *Boghead Coal. Capital. Chartered Gas Company. Coke. Cost of Production. Dalkeith. Districting Arrangement. Edinburgh. Equitable Gas Company. Glasgow. Illuminating Power. Manchester. Price. Salford. Western Gas Company.*

CAPITAL:

Proposition that the capital entitled to a dividend of ten per cent. should be revised, such capital being now set forth in the accounts in an exaggerated form, *Hughes* 89–92 ——Great variation in the proportion of capital of the London companies, with reference to each ton of coal distilled into gas, *ib.* 144–146——Further statement as to the expediency of a revision of the capital accounts in connection with the permission to pay dividends of ten per cent., *ib.* 184–186.

Foundation of witness's calculations as to the capital employed upon a certain return, showing the average capital to be 6 *l.* 6*s.* per ton of coal consumed; belief as to loans and shares being alike included in such capital, *Frankland* 196. 231–244.

Grounds for calculating that gasworks and working capital may be provided in London for an outlay of 20 *s.* per head of the population, or an aggregate sum of 3,000,000 *l.*, *Stevenson* 293–307——Inability of the companies to raise new capital at 7 *l.* per cent. since last Session, on account of the financial pressure, *ib.* 454–459——Examination in support of the view that the rate of dividend to be allowed in London should bear reference to a revised amount of capital, *ib.* 433–442. 471–473——Facility, by a revision of capital, of arriving at a uniform and moderate price, *ib.* 452, 453. 467–473.

Especial importance attached to a re-arrangement of the companies' capital accounts, as in the case of the water companies in 1852, *Beal* 916. 936–942. 957.

Statement of the amount of capital per ton of coal carbonised in various towns; fallacy of the conclusion that the capital might be taken at 4 *l.* per ton, *Henderson* 2154-2165——

Consideration

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Capital—continued.

Consideration of the question whether less capital is not required for establishing a cannel gas company than a common gas company; grounds for dissenting from this view, *Pritchard* 4219-4269——Very little difference in the amount of capital required for cannel gasworks and for common gasworks respectively, *Bartholomew* 4423-4426.

Inaccuracy of a certain statement by Mr. Beal as to the water companies having had their capital reduced in the Session of 1852, *Barter* 4662-4665——Absence of any instance of interference with capital once recognised by Parliament, *ib.* 4666——Nor is witness aware of any case of limitation of price by Parliament, with reference to the dividend being calculated upon a reduced capital, *ib.* 4667, 4668.

Fallacy of Mr. Stevenson's estimate of capital, with reference to the amount per head of population, *Hawksley* 4699, 4700. 4761——Question further considered, as to the amount of capital required for gasworks, with reference to the population, *ib.* 4930-4943.

Desire of the companies to avoid, to the utmost practicable extent, the outlay of capital required for increased supply, *Ev. p.* 263.

Statement of accounts of each company for the year 1866, showing the capital in each case, *App.* 288-300.

Returns ordered by the Committee, containing further particulars relative to the capital of each company, *App.* 303-320.

Return showing the amount of capital of each provincial gas company, per ton of coal, per 100 *l.* gas rental, and per million feet of gas sold, *App.* 326.

Return showing an average of 6 *l.* 7 *s.* 5 *d.* per ton of coal carbonised, as the capital of all the companies in London, *App.* 329.

Total capital of the gas companies adverted to by the Committee; conclusion as to the consumption of gas, and the revenue increasing in a much greater ratio than the capital, *Rep.* x.

See also *Chartered Gas Company. Equitable Gas Company. Imperial Gas Company. Nottingham. Phœnix Gas Company. Surrey Consumers Gas Company. Western Gas Company.*

Cawley, Charles Edward. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Civil engineer at Salford; is an alderman of the borough, 4526, 4527—— Management of the corporation gasworks at Salford by a committee, of which witness has been a member since 1853, and is now chairman, 4528-4531——Use exclusively of Wigan cannel, both at the Manchester and Salford gasworks, until a recent period, thirty-three per cent. of coal being now used at the former works, 4532-4534.

Experience of the Salford works adverted to as proving the impracticability of getting the high illuminating power stated by Mr. Cleminshaw unless by using all cannel, 4535-4537——Average quality of 18 or 19-candle gas, about 1,000 yards from the Salford works, 4535-4537. 4618——Decreased illuminating power of the Manchester gas since so much coal has been used; frequent complaints in consequence, 4538.

Statement as to Mr. Cleminshaw having, in his comparison between Manchester and London, omitted to include a charge for depreciation in the Manchester accounts, which amounts to about 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, 4539-4546——Consideration of the calculations of Mr. Cleminshaw in regard to leakage, wages, &c., in Manchester and in London; exceptions taken thereto, 4547-4563——Small capital on which the profits at Manchester are charged, 4554, 4555.

Net cost of materials, general charges, &c., per 1,000 feet of gas in Manchester and London respectively, 4561, 4562——Proportion of about 7 *l.* of capital at Manchester for each ton of coal carbonised, 4564, 4565——Statement of the different figures or prices which represent a dividend of ten per cent. on the London companies making common gas and cannel gas respectively; data for this calculation, 4566-4574.

Explanation that the net capital of the Salford works stood at 161,000 *l.* twelve months ago, about 12,000 *l.* having been written off for depreciation; addition to be made in respect of capitalising the ground-rent, 4575-4594——Average of about 6 *l.* 10 *s.* of capital for every ton of coal carbonised, 4589. 4595——Accuracy of the figures submitted by Mr. Hall relative to the Salford works, and the cost of production, &c., 4596, 4597.

Examination to the effect that ten per cent. is a fair return on capital in gasworks, 4598-4607——Average profit of less than ten per cent. shown by a certain table before the Committee, 4608-4613. 4622-4624——Use of the same cannel at Wigan as at Manchester, but in larger proportions, 4614——Inferior quality of the Manchester gas as compared with the Salford gas further adverted to, 4615-4617——Cost of 2½ *d.* or 3 *d.* per candle for raising the London gas from fourteen to eighteen candles, 4620——Great increase of late in the value of residual products at Salford, 4624.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Chartered Gas Company:

The Chartered Company is the oldest in London, *Evans* 1810——There are three manufacturing stations and separate mains for the supply of cannel gas and common gas, *ib.* 1811–1815——Production of common gas at about fourteen candles, and of cannel gas at from twenty-two to twenty-three candles, *ib.* 1821–1823——Belief that in 1859 the dividend of the company was eight per cent., *ib.* 1824–1828.

Average of 3 *s.* 8 *d.* as the cost per 1,000 feet of all the gas sold; the cannel gas and common gas representing sixteen candles between them; statement hereon as to there not being separate accounts of the actual cost of each gas, *Evans* 1829–1846. 1945–1950——Necessity of a profit of about 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 feet, in order to pay a dividend of ten per cent.; inability of the company at present prices to pay this dividend, *ib.* 1846–1863——Actual earnings of only 7½ per cent. in the last half-year of 1866; *ib.* 1858.

Statement of the cost of coals in 1864 and 1866, and the amount realised by the residual products, *Evans* 1918–1923——Amount of increase since 1864, in the remuneration of the directors and officers of the company, *ib.* 1924–1930——Lower rental at present than in 1864, *ib.* 1935——Great reduction of late in the value of the shares, *ib.* 1936–1941——Increased dividend paid by the company through the economy effected under the districting arrangement, *ib.* 1942–1944——Total rental of about 250,000 *l.* in 1866, of which about one-third represents the cannel gas-rental, *ib.* 1946.

Total of 315,053 *l.* as the receipts of the company in 1866, the working expenses having been 244,201 *l.*, and the net balance, 70,852 *l.*; *Bush* 1953–1957——Average of about 14 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet as the rate of profit upon the gas sold, *ib.* 1958–1963——Sale of 175,282 *l.* worth of common gas, and of 58,152 *l.* of cannel gas; doubt as to the cost or profit in each case separately, *ib.* 1964–1968. 1981–1983. 2083——Total of 810,000 *l.* as the capital of the Chartered Company, of which 150,000 *l.* has been subscribed since 1860; *ib.* 1969, 1970.

Necessity of about 16 *d.* profit per 1,000 feet of gas sold in order to admit of a dividend of ten per cent. on 810,000 *l.*: *Bush* 1975–1980——Rate of dividend paid by the company in each year since 1858, *ib.* 1987–1989——Payment of 8¾ per cent. in 1866, the actual earnings however having been only 7½ per cent., *ib.* 1989, 1990——Profit realised upon a contract for Boghead coal, which raised the dividend in 1866 to 8¾ per cent., *ib.* 1990. 2013–2024. 2070——Non-formation of any reserve fund under the Act of 1847, there being, however, a contingency fund of about 20,000 *l.*, *ib.* 1993–2010.

Examination relative to the directors' allowances, and the salaries of the secretary, clerks, &c., in 1864 and 1866; annual increase in some of the salaries, *Bush* 2031–2056. 2071–2082——Total of 140,358 *l.* paid for coals and cannel in 1866, the residual products having realised 49,344 *l.*, *ib.* 2057–2065——Power of the company to raise further capital to the amount of 90,000 *l.* under the Act of 1823, *ib.* 2084–2087.

Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to the capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 288.

Return, ordered by the Committee, containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, price, &c., for several years past, *App.* 303, 304.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coal used, and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

Unanimous rejection by the Committee of the proposal of the company to write up as capital, to be entitled to dividend at five per cent., the sum of 360,000 *l.* in respect of amounts derived from revenue at various times during the period of competition, and applied to purposes of capital expenditure, *Rep.* xv.

See also *Gas-light and Coke Company's Bill.* *Leakage.* *Mains.*

Cheap Gas. Agitation rather for cheaper gas than for better gas, *Hawksley* 4740–4742——Advantage of the cheaper gas for cooking purposes, *ib.* 4743——Expediency on the whole of the public being supplied with a superior gas rather than with an inferior and cheap gas, *ib.* 4744–4747.

Chemical Board. Expediency of a chemical board for checking the quality as supplied to the public, *Beal* 944——With regard to the appointment of a chemical board, witness was not aware that this had been suggested by the companies last year, *ib.* 949–954.

Chubb, Harry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is secretary to the Imperial Gas Company, 2928, 2929——Establishment of the Imperial Company in 1821; 2930–2932——Considerable extent of the district embraced at first by the company's mains; revision in 1857, when the competing companies agreed to divide their districts, 2933–2940——Care taken by the company in the removal of all duplicate or superfluous mains, 2941–2945.

Total of 1,385,250 *l.* as the share capital of the company on 31 December 1866, the loan capital

Chubb, Harry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

capital being 429,500 *l.*; 2946-2948——Great difficulty experienced in raising capital at seven per cent., 2949-2967——The total capital bearing ten per cent. dividend is 1,300,000 *l.*; 2951——Rate of dividend paid by the company in each year since 1821; payment of ten per cent. since 1854; 2968-2975——Limit first placed upon the price, dividend, and illuminating power of the gas of the company by the Act of 1854; 2976-2980.

Large reductions of price since 1826, when meters first were used, 2981-2983——Result of the reduction of price in 1865, that the company was unable to pay its statutory dividend by 7,900 *l.*; 2984, 2985——Supply of gas since 1860, in excess of the illuminating power required by the Act, 2986-2989——Use of nearly ten per cent. of cannel by the company, 2990——Average interest of about 4 ¾ per cent. on the loan capital, 2991, 2992——Explanation relative to some bonds, to the amount of 130,000 *l.*, bearing interest at ten per cent., these not being redeemable by the company, 2992-3000.

Enormous quantity of gas made annually by the company, the supply being more than one-fourth of the entire supply of the metropolis, and embracing more than 60,000 houses, 3001-3007——Gross receipt of 587,074 *l.*, in 1866, from all sources, the gas rental having been 477,037 *l.*, 3008-3010——Gross expenditure of 432,262 *l.*, leaving a net profit of 154,812 *l.* on the year, 3011-3015——Analysis of the cost of coal, less the residual products, per 1,000 feet of gas; showing a net cost of about 1 *s.* 2 ¾ *d.*, 3017-3035——Cost of about 1 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet in respect of manufacture, distribution, &c., 3036-3042.

Investigation of the items of receipts, showing a net profit of less than 1 *s.* 3 ½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, whereas rather more than 1 *s.* 4 *d.* is required to pay the interest and ten per cent. dividend, 3043-3058——Difference of more than 50,000 *l.* to the company by a reduction of 6 *d.* in the price, 3059——Rate of increase of consumption adverted to, as showing that reduction of price does not give any impetus to the consumption, 3060-3070.

Independent manufacture carried on at each of the three stations of the company, the whole being closely checked by the directors, and every effort being made to work as economically as possible, 3071-3086——Unfavourable situation of the stations for the economical conveyance of the coals, 3087-3090——Rise in the price of Newcastle coal, to the extent of nearly 1 *s.* a ton, during the past year, the price being now about 15 *s.*, exclusive of conveyance to the works, 3091-3095. 3098——Rise of about thirteen per cent. in the price of cannel since January 1865; 3096, 3097.

Absence of any corresponding increase in the value of residual products, when coals increase in price, 3099——Considerable rise experienced in the rate of wages, 3100-3102——Average capital of 6 *l.* 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton of coal carbonised, 3103-3105——Impracticability of constructing the works of the company at the present time for less than they have already cost, 3106-3113——Unfavourable effect of the Act of 1860 upon the position of the company as regards the payment of back dividends; prevention of back payments to the amount of 600,000 *l.*, 3114-3120.

Similar price charged by the Imperial Company for their suburban and urban supply, 3121-3123——Obstacles experienced in Parliament to the proposed enlargement of the works at Fulham, and to the erection of new works in Hackney marshes, 3124-3131——Rental of 776 *l.* per mile of mains, the whole extent being 600 miles; this rental is much below the average of the London companies, 3133-3136.

Examination with reference to the extent of competition between the Imperial Company and certain other companies previously to 1857, and the districting arrangement, 3137-3159——Abandonment of districts by the Imperial Company, and by the Western and the London companies respectively, when competition was superseded, 3160-3170 Removal for the most part of the mains of each company, when it retired from a district where it had been in active operation, 3170-3174——Considerable loss doubtless incurred in respect of duplicate mains when one set of mains is subsequently taken up and sold as old material, 3175-3183.

[Second Examination.]—Witness produces a paper containing an analysis of the accounts of the Imperial Company for the year 1866, under the heads of income, expenditure, &c., 3184.

Examination upon the circumstance of the company having a smaller district at present than in 1854, though there has been a large expenditure of capital since 1854 in the enlargement of works, 3185-3207——Statement to the effect that dividends at the rate of ten per cent. were paid upon the 650,000 *l.* new capital, expended between 1854 and 1864, from the date of calling up such capital, and before the works upon which it was expended had become productive, 3208-3232.

Question considered whether a sum of about 328,000 *l.*, formerly devoted to capital from profits, should not be deducted from the 600,000 *l.*, which under the Act of 1847 the company could pay in back dividends up to 1854; 3233-3242——Examination as to the accuracy

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Chubb, Harry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

accuracy of the statement that the company had experienced difficulty in the issue of 325,000 *l.* in new shares at seven per cent.; price of the original shares in the market adverted to hereon, 3243-3268. 3331-3336.

Explanation relative to the large excess of expenditure in 1866 as compared with 1865, the difference being caused chiefly by the increased cost of coals, and the larger quantity used in the latter year, 3271-3285. 3345-3357——Total of 251,000 tons of Newcastle coal and 20,000 tons of cannel carbonized in 1865, and of 273,000 tons and 25,800 respectively in 1866; 3280-3285——Use of less than ten per cent. of cannel, the proportion varying with reference to the quality of the Newcastle coals, 3286-3291.

Statement in explanation of the higher price charged by the company for the public lamps in St. Pancras than in Marylebone, 3292-3309. 3321-3330——Information as to the mode of expenditure of the amount already raised (85,000 *l.*) in respect of the new capital of 325,000 *l.*; 3310-3316. 3320——Course taken by the mains of the company from the Fulham works, 3317-3319.

Further reference to the extent of the former and present districts supplied by the company with reference to the expenditure of 650,000 *l.* new capital since 1854; 3337-3344——Practice of the company to defer calling up capital, bearing dividend at ten per cent., until such capital was actually required for works, 3358-3360.

City of London. Cheaper and better supply of the City of London if served by only one company, *Cleminshaw* 787——Estimate of 103,064 *l.* as the cost of mains for bringing the gas required for the City from a site at North Woolwich, *Clift* 911.

Examination relative to the discussion before the Committee of last Session on 8th May, upon the question of illuminating power, purity, &c.; the Bill of the corporation was eventually thrown out without the companies having been called upon to give any evidence against it, *Baxter* 4653-4659.

Statement on the part of the corporation as to the willingness of the City to come forward next Session with a competing scheme, *Ev. p.* 263.

Objection on the part of the Corporation to being bound by any decision which appeared to be in the nature of a compromise between the Board of Trade and the Gas Companies, *Ev. p.* 271.

Contemplated sanction by Parliament of the power of supply by the City of London, or other local authorities, in the event of the companies refusing to consent to a proper amendment of the Act of 1860, *Rep.* xvi.

See also *Great Central Gas Consumers Company. Site of Works.*

City of London Gas Light and Coke Company. Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 289.

Return ordered by the committee containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve price, &c., for several years past, *App.* 305.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coal used, and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

Cleminshaw, C. G. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has had considerable experience on the subject of gas; was for fourteen years manager of the works at Manchester, 600-602——Considers that eighteen candle gas may be supplied in London at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, yielding a profit of ten per cent., 603-607——Price and illuminating power of gas at Manchester and Liverpool adverted to in support of the conclusion that eighteen candle gas may be provided in London so as to give a profit of ten per cent. at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet, 608-613.

Details as to the relative cost of production, &c. at Manchester and in London, and as to the undue charge in London owing to the great leakage and the improper distribution of the mains, 614-621——Information relative to the numerous mains, many of them quite useless, in some parts of London, the leakage from which and the cost of repair account chiefly for the high price of gas, 617-624. 645-665——Competition of former years to which the unnecessary mains and the great leakage are attributable, 621.

Calculation that if the loss by leakage were prevented twelve candle gas could be supplied at 3 *s.*, yielding the same profit as at present, 621-640——Inaccuracy of a certain estimate of the cost of production of eighteen candle gas in London, witness showing that it may be supplied at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, the profit remaining precisely what it is now, 631-640——Production of 19½ candle gas by using one-half of Wigan cannel and one-half of Newcastle coal, 639. 641——Assumption of 27 *s.* per ton as the cost of Wigan cannel, 639.

Necessity of two or three years being allowed for taking up the useless mains and correcting the leakage; the cost would be covered by the mains taken up and the alterations effected, 642-644——Examination upon the question whether an amalgamation of all the companies is not expedient as a means of preventing unnecessary mains and leakage, and thus reducing the cost and the price of gas, 645-670——Effect of past competition in leading to the present high prices, such competition having been encouraged by Parliament;

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Cleminshaw, C. G. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

liament; question hereon upon whom the cost of the required remedy should fall, 670–676. 789–792.

Explanation as to the basis of witness's calculation of the cost of production by the gas companies in London; exclusion, as regards coal, of two companies which use cannel coal, whilst, as regards capital, three companies are excluded, 677–689——Statement that there is only one small seam of Wigan coal which produces inferior gas, 690——Experience of the use of cannel at Manchester adverted to in support of the conclusion that half cannel and half Newcastle coal will make eighteen candle gas, as used by the consumer, 691–712.

Fairness of the amount stated by the London companies as the cost of carbonising in the case of twelve candle gas, whilst the estimated cost in the case of eighteen candle gas is much over-stated, 713–721. 783–786——Examination as to the actual grounds for witness's calculation that 9 ¼ *d.* instead of 11 ¼ *d.* should be the price put down for coal per 1,000 cubic feet of twelve candle gas, 722–734——Explanation as to witness having taken the London companies' returns for 1864 in his calculations of the cost of production, &c., 735–738. 746–753. 779–782.

Statement that eighteen candle gas should be made at about 1 *s.* 5½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, 739–745——Necessity of properly regulating the distribution in order to admit of eighteen candle gas being sold at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, and leaving the same profit as at present, 754, 755——Total of 1 *s.* per 1,000 feet as the estimated loss by leakage and by labour and wear and tear consequent upon such leakage, 756–762.

Production of thirteen candle gas by Newcastle coal, whilst Wigan coal produces twenty-six candles, 763–765——Estimate of from 300,000 to 400,000 tons of cannel as the quantity to be required in London in order to obtain eighteen candle gas, 766, 767——Belief as to there being ample supplies of Wigan or other cannel obtainable, whilst the price of 27 *s.* per ton, as given by the companies, is fully sufficient to procure it, 767–779——Cheaper and better supply of the City of London if served by only one company, 787—— More economical arrangements generally by an amalgamation of companies and a reduction of the number of mains, 788–792.

Clift, John Edward. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has had many years' experience in the manufacture of gas; is now proprietor of gas works at Redditch, 811–815——Statement as to the advantage of a site at North Woolwich for the erection of gas works for the supply of the City of London; saving of expense in coal, as well as in the sale of the residual products, 816–820. 843–848——Manufacture of witness's gas at Redditch from Derbyshire coal, which gives an illuminating power of about eighteen candles, 821.

Illuminating power of eighteen candles given by a mixture of three-tenths of Scotch cannel and seven-tenths of Newcastle coal, 822–826——Estimate of 12,000 cubic feet of gas to be produced from a ton of Scotch cannel, and of 9,200 cubic feet from a ton of Newcastle coal, 824——Calculation that by using Scotch cannel at 35*s.* per ton, and Newcastle coal at 13*s.* 3*d.* per ton, 18-candle gas may be supplied to the City at 3 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, leaving six per cent. interest upon capital, 827–848.

Statement that the price of coal does not very materially affect the price of gas, 837, 838. 909——Eligible sites which may be obtained round London for new gas works, having advantages over the existing works as regards the cost of coal and the price obtained for the residual products, 852–859. 904–910——Explanation as to witness charging 5*s.* and 5*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet at Redditch for 14-candle gas, 860–869——Necessity of providing a higher illuminating power than eighteen candles, in order that consumers may always have the gas up to that standard, 870–873.

Doubt as to a ton of Newcastle coal being capable of producing 10,000 cubic feet of gas, 874–879——Increased illuminating power of the same gas through the improved burner now in use, 879. 901–903——Examination as to the prices and dividends of the Central Gas Consumers' Company, and as to the rise in price after the Act of 1860; 880–900——Estimate of 103,064 *l.* as the cost of mains for bringing the gas required for the City from a site at North Woolwich, 911.

Coal:

1. *As to the Supply and Price.*
2. *As to the Producing Power.*

1. *As to the Supply and Price:*

Examination as to the price paid by the companies for coal in 1860, and in each subsequent year; doubt as to the price during the present year, *Hughes* 94–111——Abundant supply not only of cannel coal, but of common coal, for many years to come, *ib.* 178, 179.

Large increase in the cost of coal in London in the last three or four years, *Innes* 1519, 1520——Great rise since 1864 in the price of coal used for gas making, *Evans* 1931, 1932——Rise in the price of Newcastle coal to the extent of nearly 1 *s.* a ton during

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Coal—continued.

1. *As to the Supply and Price*—continued.

during the past year, the price being now about 15*s.*, exclusive of conveyance to the works, *Chubb* 3091–3095. 3098.

Witness supplies large quantity of gas-coal from Durham to the London market, and testifies to the late rise of price, and anticipates a still further rise, *Stobart* 3681–3684——Effect upon the contract price by the distance over which conveyed, *Halls* 3720, 3721.

Return showing the price paid for coal by each provincial company, and the present price charged for gas, *App.* 325, 326.

Statement of the total tonnage of coals used by each company in 1866 and the cost, *App.* 329.

Comparative statement of the net cost of a ton of coal to each of the metropolitan gas companies for the year 1866, *App.* 337.

Great variation in the rate of expenditure of different companies in respect of fuel, *Rep.* xi.

2. *As to the Producing Power:*

Data for concluding that one ton of Newcastle coal will yield 10,000 feet of 15-candle gas; character of the experiments on the subject, *Frankland* 216–224. 250, 251.

Doubt as to a ton of Newcastle coal being capable of producing 10,000 cubic feet of gas, *Clift* 874-879—— Impracticability of getting 10,000 cubic feet of gas from a ton of Newcastle coal, unless at a very low illuminating power, *Wood* 1327–1331. 1352–1356——Explanation in connection with a certain statement by Dr. Letheby as to Newcastle coal producing 14-candle gas, *Innes* 1701–1706. 1766–1771——Belief that the best Newcastle coal will not produce 14-candle gas, and give at the same time 10,000 cubic feet per ton, *ib.* 1701–1706.

Inaccuracy of the calculation of Dr. Frankland, assuming that 10,000 feet of gas may be obtained from a ton of Newcastle coal, *Evans* 1874–1876——Test by witness of the gas producing power of some Plashetts coal, it having given 10,000 cubic feet of twelve-candle gas, whilst some common coal produced 10,000 feet of 8-candle gas, *Young* 2551–2555. 2563–2574——Production of about 9,500 feet of gas by a ton of Newcastle coal, *Finlay* 2827–2830.

Impracticability of getting 10,000 cubic feet of 15-candle gas from a ton of Newcastle coal, *Kirkham* 3445–3447——Yield of about 9,000 cubic feet per ton of Lancashire coal used by witness, the illuminating power being twelve candles, *Halls* 3698–3701——Inability of witness to obtain more than about 9,000 cubic feet of gas of twelve candles from a ton of Newcastle coal, *Campbell* 4434.

See also *Boghead Coal. Cannel. Coke. Cost of Production. Illuminating Power. Price.*

Coke:

Certainty involved in witness's calculations as to the value of coke, and of the residual products generally, *Hughes* 179*–182——Equal value of coke from Wigan coal as from Newcastle coal, *Stevenson* 314–316.

Average of 5*s.* per ton as the amount received for Wigan cannel coke by witness's company, *Innes* 1501–1506——Limited quantity of cannel coke produced by the Phœnix Company, the price averaging about 5*s.* per chaldron, and never exceeding 6*s.*, *ib.* 1684–1690. 1712–1715——Average of 8*s.* 6*d.* or 9*s.* as the price realised by common coke, the price varying greatly at different times, *ib.* 1691–1696——Larger quantity of coke from a ton of Newcastle coal than from a ton of cannel, *ib.* 1708–1711.

Very inferior quality and low price of the coke from Wigan cannel, *Evans* 1864–1870——Large quantity of cannel coke required to be used in connection with eighteen-candle gas, *Brothers* 2698, 2699——Valueless character of the coke from Scotch cannel, *Finlay* 2807–2809.

Particulars relative to the quantity and price of coke produced from the coal used by witness's company; varying value of the coke, irrespectively of the increased price of coal, *Kirkham* 3402–3416——Inaccuracy of certain evidence of Mr. Cleminshaw as to the advantages respectively of Wigan coke and Newcastle coke for carbonising, *ib.* 3456–3461——Further statement that the price of coke does not vary with the price of coal; average of about 8*s.* 6*d.* a chaldron as the price of Newcastle coke, *ib.* 3483–3509. 3518–3527—— Small value of the coke produced from Welsh cannel, *Harris* 3663, 3664.

Commercial Gas Company. Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 290—— Return containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve price, &c., for several years past, *ib.* 306—— Table showing the result of the company's operations in the year 1866, *ib.* 329.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Competition. Effect of the districting arrangement in depriving the consumers of the benefit of competition; hence the greater necessity for Parliamentary interference, *Stevenson* 330–334——Effect of past competition in leading to the present high prices, such competition having been encouraged by Parliament; question hereon upon whom the cost of the required remedy should fall, *Cleminshaw* 670–676. 789–792——Examination with reference to the extent of competition between the Imperial company and certain other companies previously to 1857, and the districting arrangement, *Chubb* 3137–3159.

Resolution of the Committee that the supply of gas in London ought to be controlled in favour of the consumer, either by means of an effective competition, or, if the system of an exclusive supply be maintained, by means of effective regulation, *Ev. p.* 261—— Further resolution that neither of these conditions is adequately fulfilled by the system of exclusive supply now in operation under the arrangement sanctioned by the Act of 1860, *ib.*

Further resolution of the Committee that no Bills for the establishment of a competing supply having been referred to the Committee, the question of providing for the establishment of control by the means of competition does not immediately arise, *Ev. p.* 261—— Also that the Committee regard the establishment of a due control by an amendment of the Act of 1860 upon the system of exclusive supply as preferable to the future introduction of competing works, and are prepared to settle the present bill accordingly, if that course be consented to by the parties, *ib.* 262.

Further resolution of the Committee that the extensive powers asked for by the Chartered Company and by the Imperial Company respectively, in the Bills before the Committee, are calculated to throw obstacles in the way of future competition, and that the Committee are not prepared to entertain them, until the general system of supply shall have been first placed upon a more satisfactory basis, *Ev. p.* 262.

Moderate dividends paid by the companies under the former system of competition, *Rep.* ix, x—— Practical obstacles to a general competition in the supply of gas throughout the Metropolis, *ib.* xvi.

See also *Districting Arrangement.* *Local or Independent Supply.* *Metropolitan Board of Works.*

Complaints. Inference as to the very satisfactory working of the Act of 1860, every facility being given to make complaints, whereas, practically, none are made, *Baxter* 4650.

See also *Vestries.*

Compromise. See *Act of* 1860.

Concentration of Works. Large mains required for the supply of London, if the works were concentrated on one spot down the river; great outlay required, *Hawksley* 4793–4799.

See also *Site of Works.*

Consumers. Conclusion as to the entire insufficiency of the provisions of the Act of 1860 for the protection of the consumer, *Rep.* viii.–x.——Summary of the various amendments contemplated by the Committee (but not accepted by the companies) in the Act of 1860 for the protection of the consumer, *ib.* xv.

See also *Districting Arrangement.* *Illuminating Power.* *Price.* *Vestries.*

Consumption of Gas. Much less quantity of gas required in London if the illuminating power be increased to eighteen candles, *Hughes* 160. 171–173——Smaller increase of consumption at Brighton since the last reduction of price than previously thereto, *Paddon* 1241–1243. 1287–1289——Slight effect of reduction of price upon the consumption, *Brothers* 2670–2677.

Less annual increase of consumption, in the case of the Surrey Consumers' Company, since the reduction of price, *Finlay* 2876–2878. 2906——Rate of increase of consumption of the Imperial Company adverted to, as showing that reduction of price does not give any impetus to the consumption, *Chubb* 3060–3070.

Reduced quantity of gas consumed accordingly as a higher and more expensive quality is provided, *Hawksley* 4732–4735——Effect of reduced consumption, through the use of dearer gas, in causing a great diminution of dividends, *ib.* 4735–4739.

Remarks by the Committee relative to the great and continuous increase in the public consumption of gas, and in the revenues of the gas companies, *Rep.* x.

Corporation of London. See *City of London.*

Corporations (*Supply of Gas*). Profitable character of gas works in the hands of corporations, as a general rule, *Heron* 515, 516.

Return showing six corporations charging as much as or more than the London companies, and four corporations charging less than the London companies, *App.* 327.

See also *Manchester.* *Rochdale.* *Salford.* *Vestries.*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

COST OF PRODUCTION:

Detailed calculation of the cost of production of 18-candle gas in London; conclusion that it can be produced at a cost which would be covered by a price of 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, after payment of dividend and working expenses, *Frankland* 193 *et seq.* —— Estimate of 2*s.* 8¼*d.* or 2*s.* 8½*d.* per 1,000 feet as the cost of the gas to the company delivered at the consumer's burner, *ib.* 196-200.

Calculation, including the cost of Wigan cannel, of Newcastle coal, and of manufacture, distribution, loss by leakage, &c., showing that after taking credit for the residual products, gas of eighteen candles may be supplied at a cost to the companies of 2*s.* 10*d.* per 1,000 feet, *Stevenson* 309–329.

Inaccuracy of a certain estimate of the cost of production of 18-candle gas in London, witness showing that it may be supplied at 3*s.* 6*d.*, the profit remaining precisely what it is now, *Cleminshaw* 631–640——Explanation as to the basis of witness's calculation of the cost of production by the gas companies in London; exclusion, as regards coal, of two companies which use cannel coal, whilst, as regards capital, three companies are excluded, *ib.* 677–689——Fairness of the amount stated by the London companies as the cost of carbonising, in the case of 12-candle gas, whilst the estimated cost in the case of 18-candle gas is much over-stated, *ib.* 713–721. 783–786.

Examination as to the actual grounds for witness's calculation that 9¼*d.* instead of 11¼*d.* should be the price put down for coal per 1,000 cubic feet of 12-candle gas, *Cleminshaw* 722–734——Explanation as to witness having taken the London companies' returns for 1864 in his calculations of the cost of production, &c., *ib.* 735–738. 746–753. 779–782——Statement that 18-candle gas should be made at or about 1*s.* 5½*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *ib.* 739–745.

Calculation that, by using Scotch cannel at 35*s.* per ton, and Newcastle coal at 13*s.* 3*d.* per ton, 18-candle gas may be supplied to the City at 3*s.* per 1,000 feet, leaving six per cent. interest upon capital, *Clift* 827–848——Grounds for concluding that 18-candle gas may be produced at 3*s.* 3*d.*, leaving a profit of nine per cent. on the capital, *Bell* 1065–1079.

Every effort is now made by the London companies to manufacture gas as economically as possible, *Innes* 1492, 1493; *Evans* 1861, 1862; *Brothers* 2632–2634——Estimate of from 2½*d.* to 2¾*d.* per candle, as the cost of raising the illuminating power from fourteen to eighteen candles, *Henderson* 2166–2170. 2184–2195. 2228, 2229——Calculation that it would cost an additional 1*s.* 2*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet to supply 18-candle gas instead of 12-candle gas, *Brothers* 2662–2667——Calculation that each additional candle from thirteen to twenty candles costs about 2¾*d.* or 3*d.*, *Finlay* 2907–2914——Result of witness's experience as to the cost of making gas of twelve sperm candles; additional cost of 2½*d.* per candle up to twenty candles, *Kirkham* 3428–3444. 3471–3482.

Estimate of 4*d.* or 5*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet as the additional cost to the London companies, if required to supply gas up to eighteen candles, that is, including 1½*d.* per 1,000 feet for improved purification by lime, *Pritchard* 4111–4114——Inability of witness to produce 20-candle gas at a lower cost than that now incurred by the Western Company, *ib.* 4115, 4116. 4169——Consideration of Dr. Frankland's estimate of the gross and net cost of the manufacture of cannel gas; inaccuracy of Dr. Frankland's figures as to the production of gas per ton of coals, as to the leakage, value of the residual products, &c., *ib.* 4120-4160——Cost of 2½*d.* or 3*d.* per candle for raising the London gas from fourteen to eighteen candles, *Cawley* 4620.

Statement as to the inaccuracy of the estimates of Mr. Hughes, Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Cleminshaw, and Professor Frankland, in regard to the cost of making 18-candle gas; reference hereon to a corrected statement prepared by witness, in which very different results are arrived at, *Hawksley* 4693–4722——Average cost of 3½*d.* per candle for supplying gas in London, so as to admit of the present dividends and interest, *ib.* 4717–4725.

Examination upon the question of witness having at one time stated that the cost of raising the Brighton gas from 12½-candles to fifteen candles would be about 1½*d.* or 2*d.* per candle on each 1,000 cubic feet, *Hawksley* 4920–4929. 4951——Further consideration of the estimate of 3½*d.* per 1,000 feet as the actual cost in London for each additional candle; witness will prepare a detailed statement in full explanation of his calculations hereon, *ib.* 4874–4919.

Examination upon the question as to the actual price proper to be charged per candle up to eighteen or twenty candles, between a gas company and a contractor; several reasons for which such price should be less than 3½*d.* per candle, or the increase between any company and the consumers, *Hawksley* 4862 *et seq.*, 4944, 4945——Explanation of the circumstances under which witness stated, in an arbitration case some years ago, that 1*d.* per

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Cost of Production—continued.

per candle per 1,000 feet was a fair price to the contractor or manufacturer of the gas for increase of illuminating power, *Hawksley* 4847–4861.

See also *Cannel Coal and Gas. Capital. Chartered Gas Company. Coal. Coke. Equitable Gas Company. Illuminating Power. Imperial Gas Company. Labour. Leakage. Management. Manchester. Nottingham. Phœnix Gas Company. Plymouth. Residual Products. Surrey Consumers Gas Company. Western Gas Company. Working Expenses.*

D.

Dalkeith. Supply of Dalkeith by only one company, there being no limitation as to price or quality, *Young* 2489–2499——Variety of cannels used by the company, the illuminating power being from twenty-five to twenty-six candles, *ib.* 2500–2507——Production of about 10,000 cubic feet of gas per ton of cannel, *ib.* 2503. 2548–2550——Loss in 1866 of fifteen per cent. of gas by leakage, exhalation, theft, &c.; instance of as much as thirty-three per cent. of unaccounted for gas, *ib.* 2508–2515.

Small sum derived by the Dalkeith Company from the sale of coke and other residual products, *Young* 2516–2522——Charge of 5*s.* per 1,000 feet for the gas, the dividend having been ten per cent. for several years, *ib.* 2523–2526——Non-adoption, for the present, of any step as to raising the price in Dalkeith, *ib.* 2544, 2545——Total of 6,000*l.* as the present capital of the Dalkeith Company, dividends having hitherto been paid on only 4,500*l.*, *ib.* 2556–2558——Charge at one period of 6*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, the price having been only 5*s.* for the last four or five years, *ib.* 2559–2562.

Damages or Compensation. Returns showing the amounts paid by the several companies as damages for accidents in different years, *App.* 303 *et seq.*

Delegates (*Vestries*). See *Act of* 1860.

Deptford. Heavy expense to witness's company in laying down mains for the public lights in Deptford, *Finlay* 2841. 2849–2851.

Directors of Gas Companies. Total number of directors and of secretaries in London; statement hereon in defence of the remuneration given to them, *Innes* 1539–1541. 1741–1747.——*See* also *Salaries.*

Distribution of Gas. Necessity of properly regulating the distribution, in order to admit of 18-candle gas being sold at 3*s.* 6*d.*, and leaving the same profit as at present, *Cleminshaw* 754, 755——Absence of variation, or increase in the cost of distribution, *Kirkham* 3516, 3517.

Accounts for the year 1866, showing the expenditure of each company under the head of distribution, *App.* 288–300.

Grounds for concluding that by improved arrangements the expenditure under the head of distribution may be greatly reduced, *Rep.* x–xii.

See also *Mains.*

Districting Arrangement:

Effect of the districting arrangement in depriving the consumers of the benefit of competition, hence the greater necessity for Parliamentary interference, *Stevenson* 330–334——Conclusion as to districting being a necessity in London, *ib.* 443–446.

Large concessions made by the companies in return for the Act of 1860; admission, however, as to the benefit conferred by the Act in sanctioning the districting arrangements, *Innes* 1554–1565. 1748–1755. 1774–1793. 1804–1806——Increased dividend paid by the Chartered Company through the economy effected under the districting arrangement, *Evans* 1942–1944——Abandonment of districts by the Imperial Company and by the Western and London Companies respectively when competition was superseded, *Chubb* 3160–3170.

Witness acted as solicitor for the five companies who joined in the districting arrangement of 1857; great difficulty experienced in arriving at a satisfactory arrangement, *Barber* 3922–3926——Reference to some maps showing the several districts and the companies supplying each previous to the arrangement of 1857, *ib.* 3927–3931——Great advantage of the districting arrangement to the public as well as to the companies, *ib.* 3932–3935——Object of the arrangement to enable the companies to increase their dividends without raising the price, which otherwise would have been necessary, *ib.* 3933.

Effect of the arrangement as regards witness's company in curtailing the mains within a certain compass, thereby leading to much economy in working, *Barber* 3936–3943——Enumeration by the districting deed of the several evils under the system previously in force; these were for the most part put an end to by the arrangement, *ib.* 3945——Provision in the districting deed relative to the price as affected by the new arrangement, *ib.* 3946

Report, 1867—*continued.*

DISTRICTING ARRANGEMENT—continued.

Barber 3946——Inability of witness to state whether the consumers were dissatisfied with the districting arrangement, as leading to the necessary consumption in many instances of cannel gas at 6*s.* in lieu of common gas at 4*s.* 6*d.*, *ib.* 4078–4087.

Considerable economy involved in the districting system, *Bartholomew* 4429, 4430——Reference to the legalisation of districting by the Act of 1860 as the consideration or concession made to the companies in return for the restrictions enforced in regard to price and illuminating power, *Baxter* 4629–4633——Absence of any application to the Home Office since 1860 for a modification of the districts under the Act, *ib.* 4640.

Resolution of the Committee that they regard the establishment of a due control by an amendment of the Act of 1860 upon the system of exclusive supply as preferable to the future introduction of competing works, and are prepared to settle the present Bill accordingly if that course be consented to by the parties, *Ev.* p. 262.

Conclusion of the Committee that they cannot give any new validity or sanction to the districting arrangement, &c. without some amendment thereof in the interest of the consumers, *Ev.* p. 265.

Provisions of the Act of 1860 sanctioning assignment of districts to companies to be subject to triennial revision, *Rep.* v.

Recommendation by the Select Committee of 1866 that the system of districts should be continued, *Rep.* viii.——Conclusion as to the advantages of a system of exclusive supply being great and obvious if accompanied by proper restrictions upon the monopoly involved, *ib.* ix, x.——Illustrations of the important benefits conferred upon the companies by the system of exclusive supply, *ib.* x.

Summary of the advantages in the interest of the consumer, which the Committee consider should be insisted on as the conditions of any settlement which may leave in the hands of the companies exclusively the future supply of the metropolis, *Rep.* xiv.

The Committee further insist upon the necessity of efficient checks upon the system of exclusive supply, otherwise they recommend that resort be made to an independent supply, *Rep.* xv, xvi.——Injustice to the consumer in being subject to a monopoly without being provided with the safeguard of effective regulation, *ib.* xvi.

DIVIDENDS:

Way in which unduly high prices of gas operate in keeping down the dividends, *Hughes* 183——Report of the Committee of 1860 in favour of an eight per cent. dividend and a graduated scale of prices, whereas a maximum price of 4*s.* 6*d.* and a ten per cent. dividend was afterwards substituted, *Beal* 920, 921. 943. 960–967.

Statement of the different figures or prices which represent a dividend of ten per cent. on the London companies making common gas and cannel gas respectively; data for this calculation, *Cawley* 4566–4574——Examination to the effect that ten per cent. is a fair return on capital in gas works, *ib.* 4598–4607——Average profit of less than ten per cent. shown by a certain table before the Committee, *ib.* 4608–4613. 4622–4624.

Explanation of the circumstance under which the Bill of 1860 was re-committed, the chief reason having been the question of reducing the dividends from ten to eight per cent., *Baxter* 4635–4637.

Statement by the Committee that they intend the price should be settled from time to time so as to yield the maximum dividend, provided the companies exercise due care and management, *Ev. p.* 270.

Objection on the part of the companies to the proposed insertion in clause 51 of the words "attaining or at least approaching" a dividend of ten per cent., *Ev. p.* 282.

Proposal by the Committee to adopt the words "attaining as near as may be, but in no case exceeding the rate of ten per cent. per annum," *Ev. p.* 282.

Objection on the part of the Metropolitan Board and the Corporation of London to the foregoing alteration, *Ev. p.* 282, 283.

Statement by counsel for the companies that, as it is intended to deny them the right of making up any previous deficiency of dividend, their consent must be withdrawn from clause 51, as altered by the Committee, *Ev. p.* 283.

Accounts of the several companies for the year 1866, showing the amount of dividend in each case, *App.* 288–300.

Returns ordered by the Committee containing further information on the subject of dividends, &c., *App.* 303–322.

Table showing the results of each company's operations in the year 1866, and the average of those making coal gas only, and those making both kinds, *App.* 329.

Provisions in the Act of 1860, limiting the dividend to ten per cent., and providing for a reserve fund when the profits are in excess of such dividend, *Rep.* vi, vii.——Claim of the companies to the continuance of a "statutory" dividend of ten per cent., whilst the Metropolitan Board and the Corporation of London do not admit such claim, *ib.* viii

Report, 1867—*continued.*

DIVIDENDS—continued.

——Provision in the Bill of 1867, in its original form, for repealing the second section of the Act of 1860 with reference to the amount of profit and the rate of dividend, *Rep.* viii——Circumstances under which the foregoing provision was struck out before the Bill was sent to the Committee, *ib.* ix.

Remarks by the Committee upon the arrangement between the Board of Trade and the companies as to the Bill not being proceeded with unless by retaining similar terms to those in clause 30 of the Act of 1847, relative to the ten per cent. dividend, *Rep.* ix.

Explanation relative to the clause proposed by the Board of Trade, and modified by the Committee, in regard to the arbitrators taking into consideration the payment of a dividend of ten per cent., *Rep.* xiv——Stop to the progress of the Bill by reason of the companies dissenting from the modified clause in regard to arbitration and rate of dividend; claim by the companies to the "statutory" dividend, *ib.*

Grounds for dissenting from the views of the companies in support of their claim to a "statutory" dividend of ten per cent. under the Acts of 1847 and 1860, *Rep.* xiv, xv——Justice to the consumer on the one side and the producer on the other, by fixing on a price which will afford to the companies a reasonable prospect of attaining from time to time, with due care and management, the maximum dividend upon the capital already expended and sanctioned, *ib.* xv.——Want of stimulus to due care and management if the companies are enabled to make good the deficiency of one year's dividend by the surplus of another, *ib.*

See also *Back Dividends.* *Brighton.* *Capital.* *Chartered Gas Company.* *Equitable Gas Company.* *Imperial Gas Company.* *Phœnix Gas Company.* *Surrey Consumers Gas Company.* *Western Gas Company.*

Dundee. Increase in the price of gas at Dundee from 4*s.* 8*d.* to 5*s.* 2*d.* on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Duplicate Mains. See *Mains.*

E.

Edinburgh. Circumstance of the Edinburgh gas companies having raised their prices 6*d.* per 1,000 feet in November last, *Williamson* 1129, 1130——Advance in the price of gas at Edinburgh owing to the scarcity and increased price of cannel coal, *M'Kelvy* 1165–1169. 1214–1222.

Supply of Edinburgh and Leith by two companies, both using cannel coals only, *Reid* 2237–2239——About 200 millions cubic feet of gas are supplied yearly by the Edinburgh and Leith Company, *ib.* 2240, 2241——Various kinds of Scotch cannel used by the company, the illuminating power being from twenty-five to twenty-seven candles, *ib.* 2242–2254——Average production of 10,000 cubic feet of gas per ton of cannel, *ib.* 2248–2250. 2419–2421——Cost of about 22 ½ *d.* for cannel per 1,000 cubic feet of gas sold in the year ending May 1866, *ib.* 2255–2258.

Total of about sixteen per cent. of unaccounted for gas, the amount having formerly been twenty per cent.; considerable reduction in the leakage in recent years, *Reid* 2259–2276——Average of 16*s.* 3*d.* per ton as the cost to witness's company of all the cannel used in the year ending May 1866; *ib.* 2305——Necessity of the two companies in Edinburgh raising their price from 4*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.* in October 1866, on account of the advancing price of Parratt or cannel coal; due inquiry made before adopting this increase, *ib.* 2317–2331——Absence of any strong competition between the two companies at Edinburgh, there being an understanding as to the districts served by each, *ib.* 2428–2441. 2471–2474.

Payment of eight per cent. by the Edinburgh and Leith Company for one or two years previous to last year, *Reid* 2463——Non-payment of any dividend in the past year, on account of the increasing price of cannel; reservation of the profits which amounted to only 4¾ per cent., *ib.* 2463–2469——Total of about 130 miles of main laid down by witness's company, *ib.* 2475——Large increase of works necessary, if the illuminating power were reduced to fifteen or sixteen candles, *ib.* 2478.

Elliott, George. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Variation in the illuminating power of the Wigan cannel, 3671, 3672——Small proportion of cannel coal raised in England, the total quantity not being more than one or one and a-half per cent. of the entire product of coal, 3673, 3674——Use of about one-fourth of the cannel for oil making, 3675, 3676——Production of some cannel in Durham, the proportion, however, not being a quarter per cent. of the whole product of coal in the county, 3677, 3678——Infinitesimal proportion of cannel obtained from the Welsh coal fields, 3679, 3680.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Engineers of Gas Companies. Belief that each company in London has not a superintending engineer, *Innes* 1549, 1550——There is no engineer-in-chief over the other engineers of the Imperial Company, *Chubb* 3077. 3269, 3270.

Equitable Gas Company. Statement as to the Equitable Company having converted a large amount of the debenture stock into capital stock; belief as to this having been in evasion of the Act of Parliament, *Beal* 996–1005.

Establishment of the Equitable Company in 1830, it having been incorporated in 1842, *Brothers* 2580——Expenditure of about 250,000 *l.* on capital account, there having been no increase of capital since 1860, *ib.* 2581–2584——Supply by the company of both cannel gas and common gas from their station at Pimlico, *ib.* 2585–2587.

Low rate of dividend in former years, whereas since the districting arrangement the dividends have increased to ten per cent., and the back dividends have all been made up, except by about 22,000 *l.*, *Brothers* 2588-2594. 2603-2617. 2622, 2623. 2757. 2759—— Total rental of the company in 1866, the net profits having been 33,000 *l.*, *ib.* 2595–2598 ——Non-payment of any back dividend in 1866; *ib.* 2617. 2678.

Explanation relative to the illuminating power given by the company as regard cannel gas and common gas respectively; excess provided beyond the requirements of the Act of Parliament, *Brothers* 2619-2621. 2644. 2679-2685——Every economy is taken in the manufacture and distribution of the gas by the company, *ib.* 2632–2634——Difficulty in paying ten per cent. last year, owing to the increased price of coal, *ib.* 2635–2643.

Explanation as to witness not being able to separate the cost of manufacture of the cannel gas from that of the common gas, *Brothers* 2645–2651. 2752–2754——Loss of all profit if the Equitable Company were required to supply 18-candle gas at 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, *ib.* 2668, 2669——Quantity of cannel and of coal used by the company, total cost thereof; amount of gas produced and sold, and sum received, including residual products, *ib.* 2709-2724——Requirement of a profit of 1 *s.* 7½ *d.* per 1,000 feet of gas sold, in order to pay a dividend of ten per cent., *ib.* 2725, 2726.

Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 291.

List of dividends actually paid by the company in each of the years 1840-66. *App.* 301.

Return ordered by the Committee containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve price, &c., for several years past, *App.* 307.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coals used, and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

See also *Leakage. Mains. Testing Arrangements.*

Evans, Frederick John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer to the Chartered Gas Company; has been connected with the company for more than thirty years, 1807–1809 ——The Chartered Company is the oldest in London, 1810——There are three manufacturing stations, and separate mains for the supply of cannel gas and common gas, 1811–1815——Reduction in December 1865 in the price of cannel gas from 6 *s.* to 5 *s.* 6 *d.*, and of common gas from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 4 *s.*, 1816–1820——Production of common gas at about fourteen candles, and of cannel gas at from twenty-two to twenty-three candles, 1821–1823.

Belief that in 1856 the dividend of the company was eight per cent., 1824–1828—— Total of about eighteen per cent. as the amount of unaccounted-for gas, the leakage forming but a small portion, 1829–1834. 1913-1917——Average of 38 *d.* as the cost per 1,000 feet of all the gas sold, the cannel gas and common gas representing sixteen candles between them; statement hereon as to there not being separate accounts of the actual cost of each gas, 1829–1846. 1945–1950.

Necessity of a profit of about 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 feet, in order to pay a dividend of ten per cent.; inability of the company at present prices to pay this dividend, 1846-1863 ——Actual earnings of only 7½ per cent. in the last half-year of 1866; 1858——Very inferior quality and low price of the coke from Wigan cannel, 1864–1870——Inability of the company to pay any dividend at all, if required to give 18-candle gas at the reduced price proposed by the Bill, 1871–1873——Inaccuracy of the calculation of Dr. Frankland, assuming that 10,000 feet of gas may be obtained from a ton of Newcastle coal, 1874–1876——Obstacle to any economy by the Chartered Company in respect of superfluous mains, and loss by leakage therefrom, 1877–1886. 1913–1917——Evidence relative to the burners now in use as compared with those in use before 1860; denial that the present burner is more favourable to the former in regard to the illuminating power produced, 1887–1912——Statement of the cost of coals in 1864 and 1866, and the amount realised by the residual products, 1918–1923——Amount of increase since 1864 in the remuneration of the directors and of the officers of the company, 1924–1930.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Evans, Frederick John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Great rise since 1864 in the price of coal, 1931, 1932——Lower rental at present than in 1864; 1935——Great reduction of late in the value of the shares, 1936-1941——Increased dividend paid by the company through the economy effected under the districting arrangement, 1942–1944——Total rental of about 250,000 *l.* in 1866, of which about one-third represents the cannel gas rental, 1946.

Expenditure. Conclusions as to the great economy of expenditure in the supply of gas to the metropolis by means of an amalgamation of the companies, *Cleminshaw* 645-670. 788-792; *Finlay* 2921.

Resolution of the Committee that the settlement must provide for the improved administration of the system by reduced expenditure; and the Committee think that by the amalgamation of some of the companies, and improved arrangement of the districts, that object may be easily obtained, *Ev. p.* 262.

Accounts of the expenditure of the several companies for the year 1866, *App.* 288–300.

Return showing that the general charges of all the companies in 1866 were at the rate of 19*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet of gas sold, *App.* 329.

Conclusion that, by proper arrangements, the expenditure under the head of management, distribution, &c., may be greatly reduced, so that the increasing consumption should lead to reduced prices, *Rep.* x–xii——Table illustrating the immense variation in the rate of expenditure of the different companies, under various heads, *ib.* xi——Great importance of an adequate control of the expenditure of the companies; absence at present of any efficient check, *ib.* xii.

See also *Cannel. Coal. Cost of Production. Distribution of Gas. Districting Arrangement. Illuminating Power. Imperial Gas Company. Labour. Management. Salaries. Working Expenses.*

F.

Finlay, Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer to the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company; was for several years assistant engineer to the Commercial Gas Company, 2760–2764——Formation of the Surrey Consumers' Company in 1849 for the supply of common gas only, 2765-2767——Very favourable situation of the manufacturing station of the company on the banks of the Thames, 2768–2772——Non-payment by the company of any dividend for the first three years, the dividends having gradually increased since 1852, and having reached ten per cent. in 1862; 2776-2778——Several arrears of back dividends paid since 1862; 2772. 2778.

Reduction of price to 4*s.* in Midsummer 1866, the dividend having in consequence been reduced to nine per cent., 2778–2780. 2795, 2796——Average of 7¾ per cent. paid in dividends since the commencement, 2781–2783——Total subscribed capital of 210,000 *l.* and of 42,000 *l.* in bonds, 2784–2787. 2925–2927——Statement of the total receipts and working expenses in 1866, the net profits having been 24,881 *l.*, 2788–2794.

Average of thirteen candles as the illuminating power of the gas supplied by the Company, 2797–2801——Quantity of cannel and of common coal used by the company, the former being about five per cent. of the whole, 2802–2806. 2854–2856——Valueless character of the coke from Scotch cannel, 2807–2809——Calculation that the actual cost of the gas sold is about 2*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, an additional 1*s.* 6*d.* being required to pay a dividend of ten per cent., 2810–2821——Loss of 16¾ per cent. under the head of unaccounted-for gas, 2816, 2817——Non-provision of any reserve fund, 2822–2824——Amount of the establishment expenses adverted to, 2825, 2826.

Production of about 9,500 feet of gas by a ton of Newcastle coal, 2827–2830——Very different effect of different burners though apparently alike, 2831–2833——Great attention paid by witness to the laying of the mains, 2834——Inaccuracy of Mr. Cleminshaw's statement as to the great loss of gas from duplicate mains, 2835, 2836——Small proportion of the unaccounted-for gas which is due to leakage, 2837–2845——Heavy expense to witness's company in laying down mains for the public lights in Deptford, 2841. 2849–2851——Belief that it would be ruin to the London companies if required to supply 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, 2852, 2853.

Disadvantage at which the Surrey Consumers' Company is placed in regard to distribution; considerable dividends nevertheless paid, 2857–2875——Less annual increase of consumption since the reduction of price, 2876–2878. 2906——Information relative to the increase since 1865 in the cost of supervision and labour, 2879–2893. 2896–2905——Total manufacture of gas by the company as compared with the quantity sold; loss of 59,142 cubic feet, 2894, 2895.

Calculation that each additional candle from thirteen to twenty candles costs about 2¾*d.*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Finlay, Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

2¾*d.* or 3*d.*; 2907–2914——Advantage of a site on the river at North Woolwich for gasworks for the supply of the metropolis, 2915–2919——Difficulty in calculating the price at which the metropolis could be supplied by a new company on a large scale, 2920–2924——Saving of expense by a fusion of all the companies, 2921.

Frankland, Dr. Edward. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Professor of Chemistry at the Royal Institution; has devoted considerable attention to the study of gas, 189–192——Calculation in detail to the effect that the illuminating power to be given under the Bill before the Committee should be fixed at eighteen candles, and the price at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, 193 *et seq.*——Estimate of 2*s.* 8¼*d.*, or 2*s.* 8½*d.* per 1,000 feet as the cost of the gas to the company, delivered at the consumer's burner, 196–200——Calculated return of 6*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* per cent. upon the capital of all the companies, with a light of eighteen candles and a price of 3*s.* 6*d.*, 196.

Foundation of witness's calculations as to the capital employed, upon a certain return showing the average capital to be 6*l.* 6*s.* per ton of coal consumed; belief as to loans and shares being alike included in such capital, 196. 231–244——Statement as to there being a saving of 33 per cent. of light by passing the common gas through the cannel gas retorts, instead of making each gas separately, 197–199——Calculation showing that the cost of a light of 1,000 candles from Wigan cannel is just the same as the cost of a similar light from Newcastle coal, 201.

Increased advantage in using cannel or rich coal accordingly as the distance increases over which the coal is carried for manufacture into gas, 202–205——Important advantage as regards purity of atmosphere by using cannel gas instead of common gas, 206–215——Data for concluding that one ton of Newcastle coal will yield 10,000 feet of 15-candle gas, 216–224. 250, 251.

Decrease sometimes in the illuminating power when gas is conveyed to a distance; that is, either by leakage and the admission of atmospheric air into the pipes, or by the gas being sent into the mains in a warm state, 225–230. 245–249——Practical character of the experiments made by witness as to the illuminating power and the purity of gas, 250–254——Explanation of the circumstances under which gas is admitted into the mains at a high temperature; effect as regards illuminating power further adverted to, 255–272.

G.

Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill. List of petitions against this Bill, *Rep.* xviii.

Resolution of the Committee that the extensive powers asked for by the Chartered Company, and by the Imperial Company respectively in the Bills before the Committee, are calculated to throw obstacles in the way of future competition, and that the Committee are not prepared to entertain them until the general system of supply shall have been first placed upon a more satisfactory basis, *Ev. p.* 262.

Unanimous opinion of the Committee in favour of proceeding with the consideration of the Metropolis Gas Bill, after hearing the opening statement in favour of the Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill, *Rep.* xxii.

Explanation of the circumstances under which the Bill of the Chartered Company has been rejected by the Committee, *Rep.* xv.

Intimation made to the Committee (on 30th July) that it was not intended by the promoters to proceed any further with the Bill, *Rep.* xxxi.

See also *Chartered Gas Company.*

Glasgow. Production of 28-candle gas at the works of witness's company at Glasgow, *Bartholomew* 4343, 4344——Average of 14*s.* a ton paid for cannel in 1866, various kinds being used at very different prices, *ib.* 4348–4350. 4415——Necessity of witness's company increasing their price by 10*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet on account of the increased price of cannel, *ib.* 4353–4356.

Particulars relative to the quantity of coals used and of gas made by witness's company, the expenses under various heads, the receipts for residual products, and the net cost per 1,000 feet of gas, *Bartholomew* 4359–4375. 4402–4419——Dividend of 10 per per cent. paid upon portion of the capital, *ib.* 4374. 4406——Degree of competition between witness's company and another company at Glasgow, there being, however, an understanding as to price; advantage to the companies if there were a districting arrangement as in London, *ib.* 4391–4399. 4428–4430——Total capital of the company, and proportion per ton of coal carbonised, *ib.* 4400–4402.

Great Central Gas Consumers' Company. Examination as to the prices and dividends of the Central Gas Consumers' Company, and as to the rise in price after the Act of 1860, *Cleft* 880–900.

The district supplied by the company is the City of London, *Harris* 3565, 3566——Formation of the company in 1849, it having been incorporated in 1851, *ib.* 3568–3570

Favourable

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Great Central Gas Consumers' Company—continued.

Favourable situation of the station of the company at Bow Common in regard to the conveyance or delivery of the coal used, *Harris* 3571–3574. 3642, 3643——Manufacture of common gas only, about 12½ per cent. of cannel being used, *ib.* 3580–3585.

Average of nearly fourteen sperm candles as the illuminating power of the gas when delivered to the consumers, the quality varying at different times, *Harris* 3525–3601——Use of about twenty per cent of cannel in the winter, *ib.* 3602, 3603——Statement of the capital of the company and the gross and net receipts; dividend of 9 or 9½ per cent. in 1866, *ib.* 3605–3616. 3647–3651——Increased prices paid by the company for coal and cannel in 1866, *ib.* 3617–3619. 3626——Circumstance of the company having been started as a consumers' company, and having raised the price in 1861 from 4*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*, *ib.* 3652–3657.

Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 292.

Return ordered by the Committee containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, price, &c. for several years past, *App.* 307.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coal used, and the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividends, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

See also *Leakage.*

H.

Halifax. With regard to the corporation supply at Halifax, the minimum price is 3*s.* 2½*d.*, and the maximum price 4*s.*, *Stevenson* 379–387.——Information relative to the cost of coal used at the Halifax works since 1861, and the cost at the present time, *ib.* 388–398——Examination explanatory of the large capital represented at the corporation works with reference to the population, *ib.* 399–415. 460–465.

Halls, George Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer and manager of the Salford Corporation Gasworks, 3685–3687——Average of twenty candles as the illuminating power of the Salford gas, it being necessary to use about six-sevenths of cannel, and sometimes in winter all cannel, in order to ensure 20-candle gas to the consumer, 3688–3695——Yield of about 10,500 cubic feet of gas by a ton of Wigan cannel, the illuminating power being about twenty-two candles, 3696, 3697——Yield of about 9,000 cubic feet per ton of Lancashire coal used by witness, the illuminating power being twelve candles, 3698–3701.

Inability of witness to produce the amount of illuminating power referred to in the evidence of Mr. Heron and Mr. Clominshaw from the use of certain proportions of cannel, 3702–3711——Increased price paid at Salford for Wigan cannel under the present contract, 3712–3715——Contract for common coal at the rate of 11*s.* 9*d.* a ton, 3716–3719——Effect upon the contract price by the distance over which conveyed, 3720, 3721.

Use of common coal at Salford on account of the advancing price of cannel and the difficulty of getting the required supply, 3722–3732——Loss of twelve per cent. of gas at Salford by leakage, condensation, &c., 3733–3737. 3805–3808. 3815, 3816——Calculation showing that, after deducting the receipts for residual products, the cost of 20-candle gas at Salford is 2*s.* 2¾*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, 3738–3743. 3799–3814.

Examination relative to the capital invested in the Salford Gasworks, and the arrangement for setting aside a sinking fund for paying off the capital, 3744–3768——Amount divided as profits among the several districts, irrespectively of the rate of interest paid upon the bonds, 3755–3762——Charge of 3*s.* 4*d.* per 1,000 feet within the borough, there being also supplies outside the borough at 3*s.* 8*d.* and 4*s.*, according to the distance, 3769–3772——Charge of 3*s.* for public lamps within the borough, the charge outside being 4*s.*, 3773–3778.

Increased cost of retorts and fire-bricks in London as compared with Salford, 3779–3783——Statement showing that the value of coke, tar, and ammoniacal water at Salford does not follow the increased price of cannel or gas coal, 3784–3794——Further particulars with reference to the actual cost of coal, &c., and the net cost of the gas supplied, after allowing for unaccounted-for gas, 3799–3816.

Hamilton (Scotland). Increase in the price of gas at Hamilton from 5*s.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*, on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Harris, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer to the Great Central Gaslight and Coke Company, 3564——The district supplied by the company is the City of London, 3565, 3566——Formation of the company in 1849, it having been incorporated in 1851; 3568–3570——Favourable situation of the station of the company at Bow Common in regard to the conveyance or delivery of the coal used, 3571–3574. 3642,

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Harris, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

3643 ——Manufacture of common gas only, about 12½ per cent of cannel being used, 3580–3585.

Total quantity made and sold respectively, the leakage, &c. being more than seventeen per cent.; several ways in which this loss arises, 3586–3594 ——Average of nearly fourteen sperm candles as the illuminating power of the gas when delivered to the consumers, the quality varying at different times, 3595–3601 ——Use of about twenty per cent. of cannel in the winter, 3602, 3603 ——Statement of the capital of the company, and the gross and net receipts; dividend of 9 or 9½ per cent. in 1866; 3605–3616. 3647–3651.

Increased prices paid by the company for coal and cannel in 1866; 3617–3619. 3626 ——Use principally of Leeswood cannel from Wales, the illuminating power produced being about twenty-one candles, and the price, in 1866, 21 *s.* per ton; doubt as to the supply available, 3619–3625. 3643–3646. 3665–3670——Variation in the price of coke and breeze, irrespectively of the price of coal, 3627–3634. 3658–3662——Circumstance of the company having been started as a consumers' company, and having raised the price in 1861 from 4 *s.* to 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, 3652–3657 ——Small value of the coke produced from the Welsh cannel, 3663, 3664.

Hastings. Charge of 4 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet for the gas supplied by the Hastings and St. Leonard's Gas Company, the quality being fourteen candles, *Wood* 1305–1307 —— Reduction of price from 5 *s.* to 4 *s.* in April 1865, and consequent reduction of dividend from ten to seven per cent., *ib.* 1308–1313 —— Calculation that, in order to supply 20-candle gas at Hastings, at a profit of ten per cent., the price should be 5 *s.* 6 *d.* or 5 *s.* 7 *d.*, *ib.* 1314.

Details relative to the cost of coal and of distribution and management, &c., showing that a much higher price than 4 *s.* is required to pay a dividend of ten per cent., *Wood* 1315–1346. 1357–1368——Use of a small per-centage of cannel, in order to keep up the illuminating power to fourteen candles, *ib.* 1322–1324. 1350, 1351.

Hawksley, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Civil engineer; has had a very lengthened experience of gasworks, and has been concerned professionally for most of the metropolitan gas companies, 4685–4692——Statement as to the inaccuracy of the estimates of Mr. Hughes, Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Cleminshaw, and Professor Frankland, in regard to the cost of making 18-candle gas; reference hereon to a corrected statement prepared by witness, in which very different results are arrived at, 4693–4722.

Fallacy of Mr. Stevenson's estimate of capital, with reference to the amount per head of population, 4699, 4700. 4761 —— Inaccuracy of Mr. Hughes's calculation that 18-candle gas may be produced from three tons of cannel and seven tons of coal, 4710–4716—— Average cost of 3½ *d.* per candle for supplying gas in London, so as to admit of the present dividends and interest, 4717–4725 ——Allowance in witness's calculations of a loss of one-sixth for waste, including leakage, 4726——Greater waste by leakage from service pipes than from mains, the leakage from the mains being very small, 4727–4731. 4787, 4788.

Reduced quantity of gas consumed accordingly, as a higher and more expensive quality is provided, 4732–4735——Effect of reduced consumption, through the use of dearer gas, in causing a great diminution of dividends, 4735–4739——Agitation rather for cheaper gas than for better gas, 4740–4742——Advantage of the cheaper gas for cooking purposes, 4743——Expediency, on the whole, of the public being supplied with a superior gas rather than with an inferior and cheap gas, 4744–4747.

Calculation that, in order to keep up the present dividends, if 18-candle gas be supplied, the charge should be 5 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, supposing the consumption not to be diminished, 4748–4754——Estimate of 5 *s.* 8 *d.* as the charge required in the first year or so, on account of the decreased consumption, 4750. 4754, 4755 ——Sundry details connected with the capital employed in the Nottingham Gasworks, the quality of the gas, the price charged, and the rate of dividend, 4761–4770——Loss rather than gain by the leasing of meters, 4764.

Requirement of four-fifths of best Barnsley coal and one-fifth Wigan cannel, in order to supply consumers at Nottingham with 16-candle gas, 4766, 4767. 4946–4949 —— Increase since last year in the price both of coal and cannel at Nottingham, 4770. 4774–4778——Great decrease in the value of residual products, 4770——Rise in the rate of wages as well as of materials, 4771–4773——Difference of price charged in many towns accordingly as the houses are within or without a certain boundary line, 4779, 4780.

Expediency of the introduction of an improved system of audit, with a view to the proper apportionment of outlay between capital and revenue, 4782, 4783 ——Great difficulty in determining the quantity of sulphur in gas, 4785——Sanitary obstacle to the use of lime as a means of getting rid of the sulphur, 4786——Very slight leakage or loss of gas through being conveyed into London in mains from works at a distance of some miles

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Hawksley, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

miles from London, 4789-4792——Large mains required for the supply of London, if the works were concentrated at one spot down the river; great outlay required, 4793-4799.

Statement as to the small amount of sulphur in the gas now supplied by the London companies, 4800-4803——Several causes which render public lamps the worst consumers that a company can have, 4804——Equal goodness of the burners used by consumers in 1860, as at the present time, 4805.

Examination with further reference to the capital of the Nottingham Gas Company, and the actual rate of dividend paid on different portions of the capital; average of only 5 ½ per cent., 4806-4833——Quality of the Nottingham gas at the works and at the consumer's meter further adverted; average of sixteen or seventeen candles as delivered to the consumer, 4834-4840——Requirement of about 12 ½ per cent. of cannel to make 15-candle gas, twenty per cent. being required at Nottingham to produce eighteen or nineteen candles at the works, 4841-4847.

Explanation of the circumstances under which witness stated in an arbitration case some years ago, that 1 *d.* per candle per 1,000 feet was a fair price to the contractor or manufacturer of the gas for increase of illuminating power, 4847-4861——Examination upon the question as to the actual price proper to be charged per candle, up to eighteen or twenty candles, between a gas company and a contractor; several reasons for which such price should be less than 3 ½ *d.* per candle, or the increase between any company and the consumers, 4862. 4944, 4945 *et seq.*

Further consideration of the estimate of 3 ½ *d.* per 1,000 feet as the actual cost in London for each additional candle; witness will prepare a detailed statement in full explanation of his calculations hereon, 4874-4919——Examination upon the question of witness having at one time stated that the cost of raising the Brighton gas from 12 ½ to 15 candles, would be about 1 ½ *d.* or 2 *d.* per candle on each 1,000 cubic feet, 4920-4929. 4951——Question further considered as to the amount of capital required for gas-works with reference to the population to be supplied, 4930-4943.

Means of thoroughly purifying gas without any nuisance being created during the process; additional cost however of about 1 *d.* per 1,000 feet, 4952-4955——Explanation of the great loss of illuminating power caused by conveying gas over a long distance; as, for instance, if London were supplied from works upon the Thames at Galleon Reach, 4955-4960——Statement as to the cost of coal at Nottingham per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, and as to the deduction to be made on account of residual products, 4961-4964.

Hawksley, Mr. Paper prepared by Mr. Hawksley, showing the cost of gas at the consumer's meter of various illuminating powers on certain assumed data, *App.* 335.

Return by Mr. Hawksley containing a synopsis of the operations of the Nottingham Gas Company for the year 1866, *App.* 336.

Henderson, George. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is secretary and manager of the Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Company, 2088——Charge of 2 *s.* 9 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet now made for gas in Plymouth, the illuminating power being thirteen candles, 2089-2092——Favourable position of the Plymouth Company in regard to capital, 2093-2100. 2122-2135——Increase of the capital of the company under Act of 1855, when the maximum price was fixed at 6 *s.*, and the illuminating power at ten candles, 2101-2104——Gradual reduction made in the price, the maximum dividend of ten per cent. having been reached, 2105-2108.

Comparison, in detail, of the working expenses, cost of production, labour, &c., in Plymouth and in London; considerable economy in the former case as compared with the latter, so that gas cannot be produced so cheaply in London as at Plymouth, 2109 *et seq.*——Circumstance of a profit of 8 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet being sufficient to pay a dividend of ten per cent. on the capital at Plymouth, whilst in London a profit of 1 *s.* 4 *d.* is required to pay a similar dividend, 2133-2139. 2222, 2223.

Large advance in the price of Newcastle coal at Plymouth, and still more so in the case of cannel, whilst the value of the residual products has diminished, 2146-2153——Statement of the amount of capital per ton of coal carbonised in various towns; fallacy of the conclusion that the capital might be taken at 4 *l.* per ton, 2154-2165——Increased price of Lothian cannel beyond that stated by Mr. Hughes, 2166.

Estimate of from 2 ½ *d.* to 2 ¾ *d.* per candle as the cost of raising the illuminating power from 14 to 18 candles, 2166-2173. 2184-2195. 2228, 2229——Gradual increase experienced in the price of cannel, owing to its increased use for gas, 2171-2174——Character of witness's experience in connection with gasworks, 2175-2183.

Examination with further reference to the cost of labour, &c. at Plymouth; explanation hereon, that in stating in 1854 that gas could be produced as cheaply in London as in Plymouth, witness omitted to take into account the item of wages, 2196-2206. 2215-2232——Explanation as to the Plymouth Company having for some time charged 6 *s.* per 1,000 feet, whereas at present they pay ten per cent. at 2 *s.* 9 *d.* per 1,000 feet, 2207-2214. 2226, 2227.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Heron, Joseph. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is town clerk of Manchester, 474——Long period for which the gas supply of Manchester has been in the hands of the ratepayers or of the corporation, 475-479——Application, almost from the first, of the surplus profits from the gasworks to the town improvements; immense sum thus expended since 1844; 480, 481——Explanation as to the large portion of the capital provided out of profits, 482-488. 560–564.

Statement with regard to the different prices charged within and without the city, the price in the city being 3 *s.* 2 *d.*, and outside the city 3 *s.* 8 *d.*; 490–495. 565-569——Average illuminating power of more than twenty-one sperm candles, whilst there has been very little impurity, 496-498. 526, 527. 535-538——Gross profit of 66,370 *l.* in 1866, about 20,000 *l.* of which was available for improvements, 499——Aggregate rental within and without the city, and total quantity of gas supplied, 500, 501——Low price received for the coke from the Manchester gasworks, 501–505.

Use of about two-thirds of cannel to one-third of other coal, there being now no difficulty in obtaining the required surplus of cannel, 506–512. 538-540——Great increase of consumption of gas, the charge having been reduced from time to time, 514. 588–590——Profitable character of gasworks in the hands of corporations, 515, 516——Lower price for some time at Liverpool than at Manchester, the price at present being the same, or very nearly so, 516. 528–534.

Opinion as to the necessity of fixing by Act of Parliament the illuminating power, if the price is to be fixed, 518, 519——Absence of Parliamentary restriction at Manchester, every case being, however, taken to supply gas of good quality, 519-527——Price of cannel coal at Manchester adverted to as being much lower than in London, 541-546.

Economy of expenditure in laying out the Manchester gasworks and mains, owing to there never having been any competition, 547-551——Further statement in defence of the practice as to the price charged for the gas by the corporation, and as to the application of the surplus profits to improvements and reduction of capital, 552 *et seq.*——Explanation, that in addition to interest at about four per cent. upon the borrowed money, a profit of six per cent. is made; question hereon as to the amount of capital upon which this return is expected, 570-584. 591-595——Rating of the gasworks, 585–587——Various sources whence cannel coal may be had in ample quantities, 596–599.

Hersey, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—As chief inspector of the Imperial Gas Company, supplies some particulars in connection with the company's mains, and the interchange of mains with the London Company in 1857; 3536-3563——Removal of about ten miles of mains out of seventy-two miles received from the London Company, there being only about one mile of useless mains unremoved, and there being no leakage whatever in respect of any superfluous mains, 3549-3561.

Hughes, Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Civil Engineer; has had considerable experience on the subject of gas, and has been engaged on all the inquiries, since 1858, into the question of the metropolis gas, 21–30——Statement of the price of gas and the illuminating power in the chief cities and towns throughout England and Scotland, 33–55——Belief as to the accuracy of a calculation by witness in 1866, that 12-candle gas could be supplied in London for about 2 *s.* 10 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, so as to give a profit of ten per cent., 56–62.

Estimate that 18-candle gas may be supplied at 3 *s.* 4 *d.* or 3 *s*, 6 *d.*, giving a profit of ten per cent.; details in support of this estimate, 61–88——Proposition that the capital entitled to a dividend of ten per cent. should be revised, such capital being now set forth in the accounts in an exaggerated form, 89–92——Examination as to the prices paid by the companies for coal in 1860, and in each subsequent year; doubt as to the price during the present year, 94–111.

Higher prices charged in some towns, where the companies' Bills were not opposed in Parliament; rate of dividend in such places, 112–117——Circumstance of the Brighton Company being now limited to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* for 14-candle gas; doubt as to the dividend having been reduced in consequence, 117-123——Statement as to the estimated value of the residual products in London, the result being that the coal or raw material costs 13 *s.* 9 *d.* per ton, 124–134.

Decided dissent from the opinion expressed by Dr. Letheby that 14-candle gas was sufficiently good for London, 135–139. 143–170——Opinion that the price should be reduced in the several places now supplying at or about 4 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, 140–142——Great variation in the proportion of capital of the London companies with reference to each ton of coal distilled into gas, 144–146.

Examination as to the amount of Lothian cannel required to bring the illuminating power in London up to eighteen candles; belief as to the supply being ample for many years to come, 147–163——Several patents now before the public for the substitution of other materials for cannel, 150——Much less quantity of gas required in London if the illuminating power be increased to eighteen candles, 160. 171–173——Question as to the prices paid by the Western Gas Company for Lancashire cannel, 164–169. 174–177——Abundant supply, not only of cannel coal, but of common coal, for many years to come, 178, 179.

Certainty

Hughes, Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Certainty involved in witness's evidence as to the value of coke and of the residual products generally, 179*–182——Way in which unduly high prices of gas operate in keeping down the dividends, 183——Further statement as to the expediency of a revision of the capital accounts in connection with the permission to pay dividends of ten per cent., 184–186. 188——Advantage of cannel gas on the score, not only of illuminating power, but of purity, 187, 188.

I.

Illuminating Power:

1. *Statements in Support of the Supply of* 18*-candle Gas at* 3*s.* 6*d. per* 1,000 *Cubic Feet.*
2. *Objections on the part of the Gas Companies to the foregoing Proposition.*
3. *Loss of Illuminating Power during Conveyance through the Pipes: Causes thereof.*
4. *Necessity of Manufacturing at a higher Standard than that prescribed for the Consumers.*
5. *Proposal by the Board of Trade for raising the Standard to Sixteen Candles.*
6. *Offer by the Companies to supply* 14*-candle Gas at* 4*s. per* 1,000 *Feet.*
7. *Other Details and Suggestions Generally.*
8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *Statements in Support of the Supply of* 18*-candle Gas at* 3*s.* 6*d. per* 1,000 *Cubic Feet.*

Calculation in detail to the effect that the illuminating power to be given under the Bill before the Committee should be fixed at eighteen candles, and the price at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *Frankland* 193 *et seq.*——Calculated return of 6*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* per cent. upon all the capital of the companies, with a light of eighteen candles and a price of 3*s.* 6*d.*, *ib.* 196.

Witness considers that 18-candle gas may be supplied in London at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, yielding a profit of ten per cent., *Cleminshaw* 603–607——Price and illuminating power of gas at Manchester and Liverpool adverted to in support of the conclusion that 18-candle gas may be provided in London, so as to give a profit of ten per cent. at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, *ib.* 608–613.

Inaccuracy of a certain estimate of the cost of production of 18-candle gas in London, witness showing that it may be supplied at 3*s.* 6*d.*, the profit remaining precisely what it is now, *Cleminshaw* 631–640——Necessity of properly regulating the distribution, in order to admit of 18-candle gas being sold at 3*s.* 6*d.*, and leaving the same profit as at present, *ib.* 754, 755.

Conclusion that a price of 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet would be a fair price for 18-candle gas; reference hereon to offers of the Corporation of London and of the Metropolitan Board to supply at that price, *Beal* 934, 935. 978–994——Expediency of the consumers generally concurring in the views of the Metropolitan Board and of the Corporation in favour of 18-candle gas at the price of 3*s.* 6*d.*, *ib.* 984–994.

Accounts explanatory of the plans of Mr. Hughes, Dr. Frankland, and Mr. Stevenson for supplying London with 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *App.* 331–334.

Estimate by Mr. Cleminshaw of the cost of making 18-candle gas in London as opposed to the estimate of the five engineers representing the metropolitan companies, *App.* 334.

2. *Objections on the part of the Gas Companies to the foregoing Proposition:*

Statement that if the Phœnix Company were compelled to give 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet they would incur a positive loss of 1*d.* per 1,000 feet, *Innes* 1507–1514——Inability of the Chartered Company to pay any dividend at all if required to give 18-candle gas at the reduced price proposed by the Bill, *Evans* 1871–1873.

Estimate of from 2½*d.* to 2¾*d.* per candle as the cost of raising the illuminating power from fourteen to eighteen candles, *Henderson* 2166–2170. 2184–2195. 2228, 2229——Calculation that it would cost an additional 1*s.* 2*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet to supply 18-candle gas instead of 12-candle gas, *Brothers* 2662–2667.

Belief that it would be ruin to the London companies if required to supply 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, *Finlay* 2852, 2853——Calculation that each additional candle from thirteen to twenty candles costs about 2¾*d.* or 3*d.*, *ib.* 2907–2914——Result of witness's experience as to the cost of making gas of twelve sperm candles; additional cost of 2½*d.* per candle up to twenty candles, *Kirkham* 3428–3444. 3471–3482.

Illuminating Power—continued.

2. *Objections on the part of the Gas Companies, &c.*—continued.

Estimate of 4 *d.* or 5 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet as the additional cost to the London companies, if required to supply gas up to eighteen candles, that is including 1 ½ *d.* per 1,000 feet for improved purification by lime, *Pritchard* 4111-4114——Cost of 2½ *d.* or 3 *d.* per candle for raising the London gas from fourteen to eighteen candles, *Cawley* 4620.——Calculation that in order to keep up the present dividends, if 18-candle gas be supplied, the charge should be 5 *s.* 4 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, supposing the consumption not to be diminished, *Hawksley* 4748-4754.

Tables in illustration of Mr. Hawksley's calculations as to the cost of gas in London at the consumer's meter with reference to the illuminating power; very different results arrived at as compared with the calculations of Dr. Frankland and others, *App.* 335.

3. *Loss of Illuminating Power during Conveyance through the Pipes: Causes thereof:*

Decrease sometimes in the illuminating power when gas is conveyed to a distance; that is either by leakage and the admission of atmospheric air into the pipes or by the gas being sent into the mains in a warm state, *Frankland* 225-230. 235-240——Explanation of the circumstances under which gas is admitted into the mains at a high temperature; effect as regards illuminating power further adverted to, *ib.* 255-272.

Causes of the diminution in quality and quantity by gas travelling a distance through the mains; allowance made for this in witness's calculations, *Stevenson* 337-339——Deposit of hydro-carbons in the pipes of witness's Company at their furthest distance from the works, notwithstanding that the best means are adopted for preventing such deposit, *Pritchard* 4161-4169——Deposit of hydro-carbons by cannel gas over much longer distances from the works than the first 1,000 yards; loss thereby of illuminating power, *Rofe* 4282. 4289-4293. 4334*-4338——Larger quantity of hydro-carbons in the case of cannel gas than of ordinary gas, *ib.* 4282——Deposit of hydro-carbons in the pipes throughout their entire distance, *Bartholomew* 4345-4347.

Dissent from certain evidence of Dr. Frankland as to the admission of air into gas-pipes where there is an escape of gas, and as to the effect upon the illuminating power, *Campbell* 4435-4438. 4486, 4487——Statement as to the deposit of hydro-carbons in gaspipes taking place as far as the gas is carried; result of experiments by witness on the subject at a distance of six miles from the works, *ib.* 4439-4458. 4478-4484. 4521-4524——Greater tendency to the deposit of hydro-carbons, and the consequent loss of illuminating power in the case of cannel gas than of ordinary gas, *ib.* 4440-4442——Explanation of the great loss of illuminating power caused by conveying gas over a long distance; as for instance, if London were supplied from works upon the Thames at Galleon Reach, *Hawksley* 4955-4960.

4. *Necessity of Manufacturing at a higher Standard than that prescribed for the Consumers:*

Explanation that the companies are required to provide a higher illuminating power than eighteen candles in order that the consumers may always have the gas up to that standard, *Clift* 870-873 — Statement in explanation of the obligation upon the Phœnix Company to keep the gas above the standard of quality prescribed by statute, *Innes* 1723-1738——Practice of the Western Gas Company to work up to a standard of 21½ or 22 candle gas in order to ensure twenty candles to the consumers, *Pritchard* 4099, 4100.

5. *Proposal by the Board of Trade for raising the Standard to Sixteen Candles:*

Arrangement, submitted on the part of the Board of Trade, that the illuminating power from 1st October 1867 till 1st January 1869 be not less than fourteen candles, and that from the latter date it be sixteen candles, *Ev. p.* 272.

6. *Offer by the Companies to supply 14-candle Gas at 4 s. per 1,000 Feet:*

Readiness expressed by the companies to supply 14-candle gas at 4 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, subject to modification from time to time, *Baxter* 4649, 4650.

Resolution of the Committee of Chairmen of the gas companies in support of the proposition of fourteen candles and 4 *s.* price, for common gas, *Ev. p.* 263.

7. *Other Details and Suggestions Generally:*

Decided dissent from the opinion expressed by Dr. Letheby, that 14-candle gas was sufficiently good for London, *Hughes* 135-139. 143. 170——Much less quantity of gas required in London if the illuminating power be increased to eighteen candles, *ib.* 160. 171-173——Opinion as to the necessity of fixing by Act of Parliament the illuminating power, if the price is to be fixed, *Heron* 518, 519——Want of sufficient analyses in order to prove the low illuminating power, *Beal* 916, 917——Approval of one standard of 18-candle gas for the whole Metropolis, *ib.* 924, 925. 932, 933.

Material saving in supplying but one standard of gas, instead of having separate pipes and mains, &c., *Innes* 1719, 1720——Supply of gas by the Imperial Company since 1860,

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Illuminating Power—continued.

7. *Other Details and Suggestions Generally*—continued.

1860, in excess of the illuminating power required by the Act, *Chubb* 2986-2989——Difference as regards illuminating power of nearly two candles between twelve sperm candles as provided for by the Act of 1860, and twelve wax candles as previously provided, *Kirkham* 3376–3380.

Table showing the minimum illuminating power prescribed by various Acts of Parliament from 1856 to 1866, with the date of each Act, and the minimum price, *Barber* 4015, 4016; and *App.* 323, 324.

8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Dissatisfaction expressed by the Committee with the offer to supply 14-candle gas at 4 *s.*, *Ev. p.* 264.

Representation by the Committee to the counsel for the Bill as to the propriety of the Board of Trade taking an active part in bringing the question of price and illuminating power into distinct form before the Committee, *Ev. p.* 265.

Sanction given by the Committee to the proposal in regard to 16-candle gas at an initial price of 3 *s.* 9 *d.*, *Ev. p.* 274——Provisions of the Act of 1860, on the score of illuminating power and purity, *Rep.* vi——Little, if any, concession involved in the proposal for a minimum illuminating power of fourteen candles, *ib.* xii, xiii——Reference to the quality of the gas now supplied, as being in general fully equal to fourteen candles, *ib.* xii.

See also *Act of* 1860. *Arbitration. Boghead Coal. Brighton. Burners. Cannel. Chemical Board. Coal. Cost of Production. Districting Arrangement. Equitable Gas Company. Great Central Gas Consumers' Company. Imperial Gas Company. Manchester. Provincial Towns. Salford. Shale Oil. Testing Arrangements. Vestries. Western Gas Company.*

Imperial Gas Company:

1. *Former and Present District supplied by the Company.*
2. *Great Extent of the Supply.*
3. *Capital, and Rate of Dividend and Interest.*
4. *Annual Receipts and Expenditure.*
5. *Price of Gas: Effect of Reductions.*
6. *Illuminating Power.*
7. *Particulars as to the Coal used.*
8. *Manufacturing Stations.*
9. *Prohibition of certain Proposed Works.*
10. *Back Dividends.*
11. *Accounts and Returns.*
12. *Imperial Gas Bill.*

1. *Former and Present District supplied by the Company:*

Considerable extent of the district embraced at first by the company's mains; revision in 1857 when the competing companies agreed to divide their districts, *Chubb* 2933–2940——Examination upon the circumstance of the company having a smaller district at present than in 1854, though there has been a large expenditure of capital since 1854 in the enlargement of works, *ib.* 3185-3207——Further reference to the extent of the former and present districts supplied by the company with reference to the expenditure of 650,000 *l.* new capital since 1854, *ib.* 3337-3344——Course taken by the mains of the company from the Fulham works, *ib.* 3317-3319.

2. *Great Extent of the Supply:*

Enormous quantity of gas made annually by the company, the supply being more than one-fourth of the entire supply of the metropolis, and embracing more than 60,000 houses, *Chubb* 3001–3007.

3. *Capital, and Rate of Dividend and Interest:*

Total of 1,385,250 *l.* as the share capital of the company on 31st December 1866, the loan capital being 429,500 *l.*, *Chubb* 2946-2948——Great difficulty experienced in raising capital at seven per cent., *ib.* 2949-2967——The total capital bearing ten per cent. dividend is 1,300,000 *l.*, *ib.* 2951.

Rate of dividend paid by the company in each year since 1821; payment of ten per cent. since 1854, *Chubb* 2968-2975——Average interest of about 4¾ per cent. on the loan capital, *ib.* 2991, 2992——Explanation relative to some bonds, to the amount of 130,000 *l.*, bearing interest at ten per cent., these not being redeemable by the company, *ib.* 2992–3000—— Average capital of 6 *l.* 1 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton of coal carbonised, *ib.* 3103–3105.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

IMPERIAL GAS COMPANY—continued.

3. *Capital, and Rate of Dividend and Interest*—continued.

Statement to the effect that dividends at the rate of ten per cent. were paid upon the 650,000 *l.* new capital expended between 1854 and 1864 from the date of calling up such capital and before the works upon which it was expended had become productive, *Chubb* 3208–3232.

Examination as to the accuracy of the statement that the company had experienced difficulty in the issue of 325,000 *l.* in new shares at seven per cent.; price of the original shares in the market adverted to hereon, *Chubb*, 3248–3268. 3331–3336——Information as to the mode of expenditure of the amount already raised (85,000 *l.*) in respect of the new capital of 325,000 *l.*, *ib.* 3310–3316. 3320——Practice of the company to defer calling up capital bearing dividend at ten per cent. until such capital was actually required for works, *ib.* 3358–3360.

4. *Annual Receipts and Expenditure:*

Gross receipt of 587,074 *l.* in 1866 from all sources, the gas rental having been 477,037 *l.*, *Chubb* 3008–3010——Gross expenditure of 432,262 *l.*, leaving a net profit of 154,812 *l.* on the year, *ib.* 3011–3015——Analysis of the cost of coal, less the residual products, per 1,000 feet of gas, showing a net cost of about 1 *s.* 2¾ *d.*, *ib.* 3017–3035——Cost of about 1 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet in respect of manufacture, distribution, &c., *ib.* 3036–3042.

Investigation of the items of receipts, showing a net profit of less than 1 *s.* 3¾ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, whereas rather more than 1 *s.* 4 *d.* is required to pay the interest and ten per cent. dividend, *Chubb* 3043–3058——Rental of 776 *l.* per mile of mains, the whole extent being 600 miles; this rental is much below the average of the London companies, *ib.* 3133–3136——Explanation relative to the large excess of expenditure in 1866 as compared with 1865, the difference being caused chiefly by the increased cost of coals and the larger quantity used in the latter year, *ib.* 3271–3285. 3345–3357.

5. *Price of Gas; Effect of Reductions:*

Limit first placed upon the price, dividend, and illuminating power of the gas of the company by the Act of 1854, *Chubb* 2976–2980——Result of the reduction of price in 1865 that the company was unable to pay its statutory dividend by 7,900 *l.*, *ib.* 2984, 2985——Difference of more than 50,000 *l.* to the company by a reduction of 6 *d.* in the price, *ib.* 3059——Similar price charged by the Imperial Company for their suburban and urban supply, *ib.* 3121–3123.

6. *Illuminating Power:*

Average of from 14 to 14½ candles as the illuminating power of the gas of the Imperial Company, common gas being exclusively manufactured, *Kirkham* 3366. 3381–3384.

7. *Particulars as to the Coal used:*

Use of nearly 10 per cent. of cannel, the proportion varying with reference to the quality of the Newcastle coals, *Chubb* 2990. 3286–3291——Total of 251,000 tons of Newcastle coal and 20,000 tons of cannel carbonised in 1865, and of 273,000 tons and 25,800 tons respectively in 1866, *ib.* 3280–3285——Use of nearly 300,000 tons of coal at the three stations of the company in 1866, about nine per cent. of which was cannel, *ib.* 3365–3375.

8. *Manufacturing Stations:*

Independent manufacture carried on at each of the three stations of the company, the whole being closely checked by the directors, and every effort being made to work as economically as possible, *Chubb* 3071–3086——Unfavourable situation of the stations for the economical conveyance of the coals, *ib.* 3087–3090——Impracticability of constructing the works of the company at the present time for less than they have already cost, *ib.* 3106–3113——Nearly similar cost of manufacture at each of the three stations of the company, *ib.* 3533–3535.

9. *Prohibition of certain proposed Works:*

Obstacles experienced in Parliament to the proposed enlargement of the works at Fulham and to the erection of new works in Hackney Marshes, *Chubb* 3124–3131.

10. *Back dividends:*

Unfavourable effect of the Act of 1860 upon the position of the Company as regards the payment of back dividends; prevention of back payments to the amount of 600,000 *l.*, *Chubb* 3114–3120——Question considered whether a sum of about 328,000 *l.* formerly devoted to capital from profits should be deducted from the 6,000,000 *l.* which, under the Act of 1847, the company could pay in back dividends up to 1854, *ib.* 3233–3242.

11. *Accounts*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Imperial Gas Company—continued.

11. *Accounts and Returns :*

Witness produces a paper containing an analysis of the accounts of the Imperial Company for the year 1866, under the heads of income, expenditure, &c., *Chubb* 3184.

Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 293.

Return ordered by the Committee containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve price, &c. for several years past, *App.* 308–310.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coals used and the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

12. *Imperial Gas Bill :*

List of petitions against the Imperial Gas Bill, *Rep.* xix.

Resolution of the Committee that the extensive powers asked for by the Chartered Company and by the Imperial Company respectively in the bills now before the Committee are calculated to throw obstacles in the way of future competition, and that the Committee are not prepared to entertain them until the general system of supply shall have been first placed upon a more satisfactory basis, *Ev. p.* 262.

Explanation of the circumstances under which the Bill promoted by the company was rejected by the Committee, *Rep.* xv.

Intimation made to the Committee (on 30th July) that it was not intended by the promoters to proceed any further with the Bill, *Rep.* xxxi.

See also *Leakage. Mains. Testing Arrangements.*

Independent Gas Company. Statement of accounts for the year 1866 showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 294—— Return ordered by the Committee containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, price, &c., for several years past, *ib.* 311, 312——Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coals used, and the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend and the total capital, *ib.* 329.

Innes, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has been engineer to the Phœnix Gas Company for the last twenty years, 1369——Transfer of the proprietary of the South London Company to the Phœnix Company in 1824, the first Act having been passed in 1820; 1370, 1371——The Phœnix Company has three manufacturing stations, 1372, 1373——Total of 888,620*l.* as the present capital of the company, of which 204,620*l.* has been spent since 1860, the dividend on the latter being limited to 7½ per cent., 1375–1379—— Gross receipt of 218,822*l.* for gas rental, residual products, &c. in 1866, the working expenses having been 150,363*l.*; 1380–1390. 1523–1526.

Large suburban district supplied by the Phœnix Company, a much larger expenditure of capital being required in such case than where the houses are close together, 1391, 1392——Differential price charged for the suburban supply as compared with the town supply; reductions in 1860 and 1865, the present price being 4*s.* per 1,000*l.* cubic feet in town, and 4*s.* 3*d.* in the suburbs, 1393–1410——Much smaller gas rental per mile of main in the suburban districts than in the crowded districts, 1411–1414.

Several reasons in explanation of the large capital of the Phœnix Company, and of the larger profit required by the company than by some other companies to pay the statutory dividend of 10 per cent., 1415–1433. 1437——Absence of any unused or duplicate mains in the district of the Phœnix Company, so that nothing can be saved on this score, 1433–1436. 1454——Small dividend at one period on account of the competition; gradual increase between 1854 and 1860, when it reached 9 per cent., 1438–1448——Payment at present of the maximum dividend of 10 per cent. on portion of the capital, other portions being limited to 7½ and 5 per cent. respectively, 1442. 1447–1453. 1522.

Great care taken by the company to prevent leakage, the loss from which has been reduced from twenty-five to twelve per cent., 1455–1471——Serious loss by leakage owing to the companies being required to supply during the day at one-inch pressure, 1465–1467. 1471——Practice of witness's company to supply uniformly 14-candle gas, some cannel coal being necessary for the purpose, 1472–1478——Explanation as to the burners used by the company, 1473, 1474. 1477.

Necessity of the company taking about 3,000*l.* last year from their surplus profits fund in order to make up their dividend to ten per cent.; distinction between this fund and the reserve fund, 1479–1485——Provision of testing-houses by the company at about 1,000 yards from each of the manufacturing stations, 1486——Absence of any legal proceedings by vestries, or of any serious complaints in regard to the quality of the gas, 1487–1491——Belief that every possible economy is practised in the manufacture of gas, 1492, 1493.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Innes, William. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Value of the residual products adverted to as not having much relation to the cost of coals, 1494——Inability of the Phœnix Company to keep up its present dividend if obliged to supply 14-candle gas at less than 4*s.*; 1495, 1496——Explanation as to the interest or dividend being limited to five per cent. upon a sum of 144,000*l.*, consisting of capitalised profits, 1496–1500——Average of 5*s.* per ton as the amount received for Wigan cannel coke, 1501–1506.

Statement that if the Phœnix Company were compelled to give 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, they would incur a positive loss of 1*d.* per 1,000 feet, 1507–1514——Tendency to an increase of working expenses by using a higher quality of coal, 1515–1517——Considerable amount of impurity in some kinds of cannel, 1518——Large increase in the cost of coal in London in the last three or four years, 1519, 1520——Large increase also in the cost of labour, 1521.

Particulars as to the price per ton given for coal and cannel in 1866, the gross cost having been 81,793*l.*; 1527–1531. 1741–1743——There are ten directors who receive 2,000*l.* a year, the secretary having 1,000*l.* a year, and the clerks about 1,500*l.*; 1534–1538——Total number of directors and of secretaries in London; statement hereon in defence of the remuneration given to them, 1539–1541. 1741–1747.

Arrangement of the mains of the Phœnix Company without their running through the districts of other companies, 1542–1548——Belief that each company has not a superintending engineer, 1549, 1550——Reductions of price by the Phœnix Company further adverted to, 1551–1554——Large concessions made by the companies in return for the Act of 1860; admission hereon as to the benefit conferred by the Act in sanctioning the districting arrangement, 1554–1565.

Further explanations in connection with the capital expenditure of the Phœnix Company under different heads, as affecting the question of a ten per cent. dividend, 1566–1593——Circumstance of the Phœnix Company charging 4*s.* at one side of the Walworth Road, whilst the South Metropolitan Company charge only 3*s.* 4*d.* on the other side, 1594–1601——Distinction between the reserve fund of the Phœnix Company, and the balance of profits; the latter does not interfere with the accumulation of the former, 1602–1612——Obligation upon the companies to reduce the price, if a margin is available after the reserve fund comes to ten per cent. of the capital, 1604, 1605.

Average of not quite nine per cent. paid by the company upon its whole capital, 1613, 1614——Total of about 9,000*l.* invested in the reserve fund, 1615, 1616——Payment of back dividend for three years, no money having been taken from the reserve for the purpose, and on only one occasion from the balance of profits, 1617–1636——Effect of the requirement of an inch pressure during the day further adverted to; very little profit made from the day supply by the Phœnix Company, 1637–1642. 1763–1765.

Examination with further reference to the present and former burners used by the Phœnix Company in testing the illuminating power; use at three stations of burners of the same construction as are used by Dr. Letheby, 1643–1671——Use of five per cent. of cannel for ten months in the year, and of ten per cent. for two months, the cannel coke being kept separate during these two months, 1672–1675——Data for witness's calculations as to the illuminating power of cannel and of Newcastle coal respectively, and as to the quantity of gas produced per ton, 1676–1683. 1697–1707.

Limited quantity of cannel coke produced by the Phœnix Company, the price averaging about 5*s.* per chaldron, and never exceeding 6*s.*, 1684–1690. 1712–1715——Average of 8*s.* 6*d.* or 9*s.* as the price realised by common coke, the price varying greatly at different times, 1691–1696——Belief that the best Newcastle coal will not produce 14-candle gas, and give at the same time 10,000 cubic feet per ton, 1701–1706——Larger quantity of coke from a ton of Newcastle coal than from cannel, 1708–1711——Richer character of the tar and oil from cannel than from common gas, 1716, 1717.

Annual consumption by witness's company of about 96,000 tons of common coal, and 7,000 tons of cannel, 1718——Material saving in supplying but one standard of gas instead of having separate pipes and mains, &c., 1719, 1720——Net cost of 29*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet for the gas of the Phœnix Company at the consumer's meter, 1722——Statement in explanation of the obligation upon the company to keep the gas above the standard of quality prescribed by statute, 1723–1738.

Further statement as to the concessions made and received by the companies under the Act of 1860; 1748–1755. 1774–1793. 1804–1806——Circumstance of the 7½ per cent. shares of the Phœnix Company being now at a discount, 1756–1758. 1761, 1762——Explanation in connection with a certain statement by Dr. Letheby as to Newcastle coal producing 14-candle gas, 1766–1771——Great increase in the price of cannel, if common coal were not used for gas, 1772, 1773——Amount of capital authorised to be raised by the Phœnix Company under the Act 27 & 28 Vict., and amount actually raised hitherto, 1794–1803.

Inverness. Very high price paid for cannel at Inverness, the charge for gas being 7*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, and the illuminating power being doubtless high, *Barber* 4017–4021.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

K.

Kirkcaldy. Increase in the price of gas at Kirkcaldy from 4*s.* 5*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.* on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Kirkham, Thomas Neesham. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer at the Fulham station of the Imperial Gas Company, 3361–3364——Use of nearly 300,000 tons of coal at the three stations of the company in 1866, about nine per cent. of which was cannel, 3365–3375——Manufacture of common gas exclusively, 3366——Total quantity of gas made and total quantity sold, there being about sixteen per cent. of unaccounted-for gas, 3373–3375——Difference as regards illuminating power of nearly two candles between twelve sperm candles as provided for by the Act of 1860, and twelve wax candles as previously provided, 3376–3380.

Average of from 14 to 14½ candles as the illuminating power of the gas of the Imperial Company, 3381–3384——Public supervision and test to which the gas is subject, there not having been however any legal proceedings against the company for breach of the Act of Parliament, 3385–3399——Increase of twenty-five per cent. since 1860 in the wages connected with carbonising, 3400, 3401——Particulars relative to the quantity and price of coke produced from the coal; varying value of the coke irrespectively of the increased price of coal, 3402–3416.

Very little difference between the burners now used by the Imperial Company and the burners at the time of passing of the Act of 1860; 3417, 3418——Estimate of about 4*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet of gas as the loss by leakage in London, 3419——Absence of leakage from any duplicate or superfluous mains, 3420, 3421——Occurrence of leakage in connection with service pipes rather than with mains, 3422–3427.

Result of witness's experience as to the cost of making gas of twelve sperm candles; additional cost of 2½*d.* per candle up to twenty candles, 3428–3444. 3471–3482——Impracticability of getting 10,000 cubic feet of 15-candle gas from a ton of Newcastle coal, 3445–3447——Necessity of seventy-five per cent. of Wigan cannel, in order to produce 18-candle gas, 3448–3455——Inaccuracy of certain evidence of Mr. Cleminshaw as to the advantages respectively of Wigan coke and Newcastle coke for carbonising, 3456–3461——Dissent also from the calculations of Mr. Cleminshaw as to the value of the several residual products, 3463–3470.

Further statement that the price of coke does not vary with the price of coal; average of about 8*s.* 6*d.* a chaldron as the price of Newcastle coke, 3483–3509. 3518–3527——Important increase in the price of labour further adverted to, 3513——Absence of variation or increase in the cost of distribution, 3516, 3517——Further information relative to the former and present burners used by the company, and the similarity between them, 3528–3532——Nearly similar cost of manufacture at each of the three stations of the company, 3533–3535.

L.

Labour (*Wages*). Large increase in the cost of labour in London in the last few years, *Innes* 1521——Information relative to the increase since 1865 in the cost of supervision and labour in the case of the Surrey Consumers' Company, *Finlay* 2879–2893. 2896–2905——Considerable rise experienced in the rate of wages, *Chubbs* 3100–3102——Increase of twenty-five per cent. since 1860 in the wages connected with carbonising, *Kirkham* 3400, 3401——Important increase in the price of labour further adverted to, *ib.* 3513——Rise in the rate of wages as well as of materials, *Hawksley* 4771–4773.

Lamps. See *Public Lights.*

Leakage (*Unaccounted-for Gas*):

Estimate of 12½ per cent. as the loss by leakage, *Frankland* 196——Very large leakage in London, owing to the improper distribution of the mains, *Cleminshaw* 614–621——Calculation that if the loss by leakage were prevented, 12-candle gas could be supplied at 3*s.*, yielding the same profit as at present, *ib.* 621–640——Total of 1*s.* per 1,000 feet as the estimated loss by leakage, and by labour and wear and tear, consequent upon such leakage, *ib.* 756–762.

Great care taken by the Phœnix Company to prevent leakage, the loss from which has been reduced from twenty-five to twelve per cent., *Innes* 1455–1471——Adoption of every means for securing the pipes at the joints, and for preventing leakage, *ib.* 1457–1464——Serious loss by leakage, owing to the companies being required to supply, during the day, at one-inch pressure, *ib.* 1465–1467. 1471——Effect of the requirement of an inch pressure during the day further adverted to; very little profit made from the day supply by the Phœnix Company, *ib.* 1637–1642. 1763–1765.

Total of about eighteen per cent. as the amount of unaccounted-for gas of the Char-

Leakage (Unaccounted-for Gas)—continued.

tered Company, the leakage forming but a small portion, *Evans* 1829-1834. 1913-1917 ——Character of the levels over which the mains are laid in Edinburgh and London respectively; doubt expressed hereon as to the leakage in London being unduly high, *Reid* 2442-2454. 2458-2461.

Greater waste of cannel gas than of common gas, *Brothers* 2652, 2653——Total of fourteen per cent. as the unaccounted-for gas of the Equitable Company, including not only leakage but loss by defective meters, &c., *ib.* 2654-2661 ——Large pressure in the mains of the Equitable Company during the day, and consequent loss of gas, *ib.* 2693-2695.

Loss of 16¾ per cent. by the Surrey Consumers' Company, under the head of unaccounted-for gas, *Finlay* 2816, 2817——Great attention paid by witness to the laying of the mains of his company, *ib.* 2834——Small proportion of the unaccounted-for gas which is due to leakage, *ib.* 2837-2845——Total manufacture of gas by the company, as compared with the quantity sold; loss of 59,141 cubic feet in one year, *ib.* 2894, 2895.

Total quantity of gas made by the Imperial Company, and total quantity sold, there being about sixteen per cent. of unaccounted-for gas, *Kirkham* 3373-3375——Estimate of about 4 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, as the loss by leakage in London, *ib.* 3419—— ——Occurrence of leakage in connection with service pipes rather than with mains, *ib.* 3422-3427.

Total quantity made and sold respectively by the Great Central Company, the leakage, &c., being more than seventeen per cent.; several ways in which this loss arises, *Harris* 3586-3594—— Loss by leakage, &c., at the rate of fifteen per cent., in the case of the Western Company, *Pritchard* 4148——Loss of about seventeen per cent. of the Western Company's gas, by leakage, &c., adverted to as not being excessive, *Rofe* 4287, 4288.

Allowance in witness's calculations of a loss of one-sixth for waste, including leakage, *Hawksley* 4726——Greater waste by leakage from service pipes than from mains, the leakage from the mains being very small, *ib.* 4727-4731. 4787, 4788.

See also *Dalkeith. Edinburgh. Mains.*

Legal Proceedings. Facility given by the Act of 1860 in regard to legal proceedings against the companies, *Baxter* 4642-4645.

Letheby, Dr. Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Statement in support of Clause 32 of the Bill, providing that the gas supplied by the companies shall be wholly free from sulphuretted hydrogen; question considered hereon as to the test to be applied, 4972-4988 ——Approval of the provision that the testing place shall be not less than 1,000 yards from the works, 4989, 4990——Sufficiency of the protection under Clause 40, in regard to the quality of the gas not being varied from time to time during the day or night, to the prejudice of the consumers, 4991-4996. 5004-5010.

Possible prejudice to the companies if the lowest of the testings during each day were to be the ruling test, 4997-5003——Undue facility to the companies, under Clause 54 as amended, in regard to improving the illuminating power during the day, if there had been any deficiency of quality, 5017, 5018——Doubt as to the sufficiency of a penalty of 50 *l.* for defective illuminating power, 5019-5021.

Lime Purification. See *Purification of Gas.*

Liverpool. Lower price for some time at Liverpool than at Manchester, the price at present being the same or very nearly so, *Heron* 516. 528-534.

Loan Capital. Advantage of such arrangements as will lead to the raising of capital by loan instead of by shares, so as to diminish the profits required for dividends, *Rep.* xii.

Local or Independent Supply. In the event of the companies not making any satisfactory proposal, the Committee will feel constrained to report in favour of an independent supply by the local authorities of the Metropolis, *Ev. p.* 265.

Reasons which have precluded the Committee for definitively recommending the enactment of an independent supply, *Rep.* ix.

Further conclusions in favour of an independent supply by the local authorities of the Metropolis, failing such reasonable terms from the companies as are pointed out by the Committee, *Rep.* xv, xvi.

Contemplated promotion of a Bill in the ensuing session, empowering the local authorities to provide an independent supply; that is, if the companies refuse to accept a proper amendment of the Act of 1860, *Rep.* xvi.

See also *City of London. Metropolitan Board of Works.*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

London Gas Company. Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 295.

Return ordered by the Committee containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve price, &c., for several years past, *App.* 312–313.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coals used, and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividends, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

Lothian Cannel. See *Cannel Coal and Gas.*

M.

M'Kelvey, James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Coal agent at Edinburgh; is largely concerned in the supply of cannel coal, 1145–1149——Particulars as to the increase of price of Lismahagow, Boghead, and other cannel within the last three years; rise of 4 *s.* or 5 *s.* per ton within the last six or eight months, 1150–1164. 1170–1174. 1188–1213. 1223–1227——Advance within the last twelve months in the price of gas at Edinburgh, owing to the scarcity and increased price of cannel coal, 1165–1169. 1214–1222—— Statement as to the quantities of Scotch cannel supplied through witness to different London gas companies; check to this supply through the increased prices, 1170. 1175–1213. 1223–1225.

Mains. Information relative to the numerous mains, many of them quite useless, in some parts of London, the leakage from which, and the cost of repair, account chiefly for the high price of gas, *Cleminshaw* 617–624. 645–665——Competition of former years to which the unnecessary mains and the great leakage are attributable, *ib.* 621——Necessity of two or three years being allowed for taking up the useless mains and correcting the leakage; the cost would be covered by the mains taken up, and the alterations effected, *ib.* 642–644.

Absence of any unused or duplicate mains in the district of the Phœnix Company, so that nothing can be saved on this score, *Innes* 1433–1436. 1454——Arrangement of the mains of the Phœnix Company without their running through the districts of other companies, *ib.* 1542–1248——Obstacle to any economy by the Chartered Company in respect of superfluous mains, and loss by leakage therefrom, *Evans* 1877–1886. 1913–1917——Inability of the Equitable Company to reduce their losses from leakage by reason of any duplicate or superfluous mains, *Brothers* 2686–2692.

Inaccuracy of Mr. Cleminshaw's statement as to the great loss of gas from duplicate mains, *Finlay* 2835, 2836——Care taken by the Imperial Company in the removal of all duplicate or superfluous mains, *Chubb* 2941–2945——Removal for the most part of the mains of each company when it retired from a district where it had been in active operation, *ib.* 3070–3174—— Considerable loss, doubtless incurred in respect of duplicate mains, when one set of mains is subsequently taken up and sold as old material, *ib.* 3175–3183——Absence of leakage from any duplicate or superfluous mains in the case of witness's company, *Kirkham* 3420, 3421.

Witness, as chief inspector of the Imperial Gas Company, supplies some particulars in connection with the company's mains, and the interchange of mains with the London Company in 1857, *Hersey* 3536–3563——Removal of about ten miles of mains out of seventy-two miles received from the London Company, there being only about one mile of useless mains unremoved, and there being no leakage whatever in respect of any superfluous mains, *ib.* 3549–3561.

Removal of surplus mains by the several companies parties to the districting, *Barber* 3947–3949——Inaccuracy of a statement as to there being surplus mains in Regent-street and Piccadilly, *ib.* 3950. 3952.——Statement as to the loss by leakage from mains being very small, *Hawksley* 4727–4731. 4787, 4788.

See also *Distribution of Gas.* *Districting Arrangement.* *Leakage.*

Management. Enhanced cost in London, owing to the superintendence and management of the gas supply being divided between thirteen separate companies, *Stevenson* 335, 336.

Accounts of the expenses of each company under the head of management for the year 1866, *App.* 288–300.

Conclusion as to the great room for economy under the head of management, *Rep.* xi, xii.

Manchester:

Long period for which the gas supply of Manchester has been in the hands of the ratepayers or of the corporation, *Heron* 475–479——Application, almost from the first, of the surplus profits from the gasworks to the town improvements; immense sum thus expended since 1844, *ib.* 480, 481——Explanation as to the large portion of the capital provided out of profits, *ib.* 482–488. 560–564.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

MANCHESTER—continued.

Statement with regard to the different prices charged within and without the city, the price in the city being 3 *s.* 2 *d.*, and outside the city 3 *s.* 8 *d.*, *Heron* 490–495. 565–569 ——Average illuminating power of more than twenty-one sperm candles, whilst there has been very little impurity, *ib.* 496–498. 526, 527. 535–538——Gross profit of 66,370*l.* in 1866, about 20,000 *l.* of which was available for improvements, *ib.* 499——Aggregate rental within and without the city, and total quantity of gas supplied, *ib.* 500, 501—— Low price received for the coke from the gasworks, *ib.* 501–505——Great increase of consumption of gas, the charge having been reduced from time to time, *ib.* 514. 588–590.

Absence of Parliamentary restriction at Manchester, every care being, however, taken to supply gas of good quality, *Heron* 519–527——Economy of expenditure in laying out the gasworks and mains owing to there never having been any competition, *ib.* 547–551.

Further statement in defence of the practice as to the price charged for the gas by the corporation, and as to the application of the surplus profits to improvements and reduction of capital, *Heron* 552 *et seq.*——Explanation that, in addition to interest at about four per cent. upon the borrowed money, a profit of six per cent. is made; question hereon as to the amount of capital upon which this return is expected, *ib.* 570–584. 591–595——Rating of the gasworks, *ib.* 585–587.

Details as to the relative cost of production, &c., at Manchester and in London, and as to the undue charges in London, owing to the great leakage and the improper distribution of the mains, *Cleminshaw* 614–621.

Witness (in conjunction with Mr. Wood, the engineer of the Hastings Gasworks, and Mr. Sugg, the manufacturer of gas apparatus) recently made twelve experiments as to the illuminating power of the gas at Manchester, *Odling* 3822, 3823——Explains the mode in which these experiments were conducted, the description of photometer and burner used, &c.; every possible care was taken in the matter, *ib.* 3824 *et seq.*——Result of the twelve experiments, that the gas gave an average illuminating power of 18·38 sperm candles, *ib.* 3827–3838——Report handed in showing the actual result of each experiment, *ib.* 3864.

Corroboration of the evidence of Dr. Odling as to the great care taken in recently testing the illuminating power of the Manchester gas, *Wood* 3865–3871.

Witness testifies to the exceedingly careful and accurate manner in which certain experiments were recently made at Manchester by Dr. Odling (accompanied by Mr. Wood and witness) relative to the illuminating power of the gas, *Sugg* 3872–3886—— The burner used was the same as that generally used in testing the cannel gas in London, and was made by witness, *ib.* 3879, 3916–3918.

Decreased illuminating power of the Manchester gas since so much coal has been used; frequent complaints in consequence, *Cawley* 4538——Statement as to Mr. Cleminshaw having, in his comparison between Manchester and London, omitted to charge for depreciation in the Manchester accounts, which amounts to about 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, *ib.* 4539-4546——Consideration of the calculations of Mr. Cleminshaw in regard to leakages, wages, &c., in Manchester and in London; exceptions taken thereto, *ib.* 4547–4563——Small capital on which the profits at Manchester are charged, *ib.* 4554, 4555.

Net cost of materials, general charges, &c., per 1,000 feet of gas, in Manchester and London respectively, *Cawley* 4561, 4562——Proportion of about 7 *l.* of capital at Manchester for each ton of coal carbonised, *ib.* 4564, 4565——Inferior quality of the Manchester gas as compared with the Salford gas, *ib.* 4615–4617——Use of the same cannel at Wigan as at Manchester, but in larger proportion, *ib.* 4614.

See also *Salford.*

Meters. Large reductions of price since 1826, when meters were first used, *Chubb* 2981–2983——Loss rather than gain by the leasing of meters, *Hawksley* 4764.

Metropolis Gas Act. See *Act of* 1860.

Metropolitan Board of Works. Reference to the willingness of the companies to substitute the Metropolitan Board for the vestries with respect to chemical analysis, &c., *Beal* 955, 956.

Objection on the part of the Metropolitan Board to a certain proposition by the gas companies to supply 14-candle gas at 4 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *Ev. p.* 264.

Dissent on the part of the Metropolitan Board of Works from certain terms proposed by the Board of Trade, *Ev. p.* 269.

Omission from the Bill of 1867, as referred to the Committee, of the clause which it originally contained with reference to purchase of the works of the existing companies by the Metropolitan Board, *Rep.* viii, ix.

Remarks

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Metropolitan Board of Works—continued.

Remarks upon the circumstance of the Board not having appeared before the Committee as promoters of a Bill for furnishing a supply independent of that furnished by the Companies, *Rep.* ix.

Disapproval of the reduction of price to a fixed amount, proposed by the Metropolitan Board, as compared with a plan of periodical revision, *Rep.* xiv.

Contemplated supply by the Metropolitan Board, under the sanction of Parliament, in the event of the companies refusing to consent to a proper amendment of the Act of 1860, *Rep.* xvi.

Monopoly. See *Districting Arrangement.*

Montrose. Increase in the price of gas at Montrose from 5*s.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*, on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Municipal Supply. See *Manchester. Metropolitan Board of Works. Rochdale. Salford. Vestries.*

N.

Nottingham. Sundry details connected with the capital employed in the Nottingham Gasworks, the quality of the gas, the price charged, and the rate of dividend, *Hawksley* 4761-4770——Requirement of four-fifths of best Barnsley coal and one-fifth Wigan cannel, in order to supply consumers at Nottingham with 16-candle gas, *ib.* 4766, 4767. 4946–4949——Increase since last year in the price both of coal and cannel at Nottingham, *ib.* 4770. 4774–4778.

Examination with further reference to the capital of the Nottingham Gas Company, and the actual rate of dividend paid on different portions of the capital; average of only 5½ per cent., *Hawksley* 4806–4833——Quality of the Nottingham gas at the works and at the consumer's meter further adverted to; average of sixteen or seventeen candles as delivered to the consumer, *ib.* 4841–4847——Statement as to the cost of coal at Nottingham per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, and as to the deduction to be made on account of residual products, *ib.* 4961–4964.

Return by Mr. Hawksley, containing a synopsis of the operations of the Nottingham Gas Company for the year 1866, *App.* 336.

O.

Odling, Dr. William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Professor of chemistry at St. Bartholomew's Hospital; has had considerable experience in the testing of gas, 3817–3821——Has, in conjunction with Mr. Wood, the engineer of the Hastings Gasworks, and Mr. Sugg, the manufacturer of gas apparatus, recently made twelve experiments as to the illuminating power of the gas at Manchester, 3822, 3823——Explains the mode in which these experiments were conducted, the description of photometer and burner used, &c.; every possible care was taken in the matter, 3824 *et seq.*——Result of the twelve experiments, that the gas gave an average illuminating power of 18·38 sperm candles, 3827–3838——Report handed in showing the actual result of each experiment, 3864.

Outlying Districts. See *Phœnix Gas Company. Suburban Supply.*

P.

Paddon, John Birch. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Civil engineer; is manager of the Brighton and Hove General Gas Company, 1228–1230——Several reductions made by the Company in the price of their gas down to year 1866; further reduction then made from 4*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*, in consequence chiefly of the rival Bill before Parliament, 1231–1240. 1250–1269. 1290–1292——Smaller increase of consumption since the last reduction of price than previously thereto, 1241–1243. 1287–1289.

Statement to the effect, that owing to the reduction of 6*d.* in the price, the greater cost of coal, and the less value of the residual products, the earnings were reduced from ten per cent. to 3¼ per cent. in the last half year of 1866; 1244–1248. 1270–1286. 1293–1302——Payment of a dividend at the rate of five per cent. per annum in the half-year to 31st December last, it being necessary to draw from a reserve fund for the purpose, 1274, 1275. 1302——Smaller working expenses than usual in the half year in question, 1276–1278. 1293–1300.

Paving. Great economy in paving, through the districting arrangement, *Evans* 1944.

Penalties. Willingness of the companies to pay any penalties out of dividends, *Baxter* 4648——Doubt as to the sufficiency of a penalty of 50*l.* for defective illuminating power, *Letheby* 5019–5021——Proposition submitted on the part of the Board of Trade in regard to penalties, *Ev. p.* 272.

Perth. Increase of 1*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet in the price of gas at Perth, on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Petitions. List of petitions against the Metropolis Gas Bill, *Rep.* xvii, xviii—Also of petitions against the Gas Light and Coke Company's Bill, *ib.* xviii—Also against the Imperial Gas Bill, *ib.* xix.

PHŒNIX GAS COMPANY:

The Phœnix Company has three manufacturing stations, *Innes* 1372, 1373——Total of 888,620 *l.* as the present capital of the company, of which 204,620 *l.* has been spent since 1860, the dividend on the latter being limited to 7½ per cent., *ib.* 1375–1379——Gross receipt of 218,822 *l.* for gas rental, residual products, &c. in 1866, the working expenses having been 150,363 *l.*, *ib.* 1380–1390. 1523–1526——Large suburban district supplied by the company, a much larger expenditure of capital being required in such case than where the houses are close together, *ib.* 1391, 1392——Differential price charged for the suburban supply, as compared with the town supply; reductions in 1860 and 1865, the present price being 4 *s.* per 1,000 cubic feet in town, and 4 *s.* 3 *d.* in the suburbs, *ib.* 1393–1410.

Several reasons in explanation of the large capital of the Phœnix Company, and of the larger profit required by the company than by some other companies to pay the statutory dividend of ten per cent., *Innes* 1415–1433. 1437——Small dividend at one period, on account of the competition; gradual increase between 1854 and 1860, when it reached nine per cent., *ib.* 1438–1448—— Payment at present of the maximum dividend of ten per cent. on a portion of the capital, other portions being limited to 7½ and five per cent. respectively, *ib.* 1442. 1447–1453. 1522——Necessity of the company taking about 3,000 *l.* last year from their surplus profits fund, in order to make up their dividend to ten per cent.; distinction between this fund and the reserve fund, *ib.* 1479–1485.

Absence of any legal proceedings by vestries, or of any serious complaints, in regard to the quality of the gas, *Innes* 1487–1491——Inability of the company to keep up its present dividend if obliged to supply 14-candle gas at less than 4 *s.*, *ib.* 1495, 1496——Explanation as to the interest or dividend being limited to five per cent. upon a sum of 144,000 *l.*, consisting of capitalised profits, *ib.* 1496–1500——Particulars as to the price per ton given for coal and cannel in 1866, the gross cost having been 81,793 *l.*, *ib.* 1527–1531. 1741–1743——There are ten directors who receive 2,000 *l.* a year, the secretary having 1,000 *l.* a year, and the clerks about 1,500 *l.*, *ib.* 1534–1538——Reductions of price by the company further adverted to, *ib.* 1551–1554.

Further explanations in connection with the capital expenditure of the Phœnix Company under different heads, as affecting the question of a ten per cent. dividend, *Innes* 1566–1593—— Distinction between the reserve fund of the company and the balance of profits; the latter does not interfere with the accumulation of the former, *ib.* 1602–1612——Average of not quite nine per cent. paid by the company upon its whole capital, *ib.* 1613, 1614——Total of about 9,000 *l.* invested in the reserve fund, *ib.* 1615, 1616——Payment of back dividends for three years, no money having been taken from the reserve for the purpose, and on only one occasion from the balance of profits, *ib.* 1617–1636.

Use of five per cent. of cannel for ten months in the year, and of ten per cent. for two months, the cannel coke being kept separate during these two months, *Innes* 1672–1675——Annual consumption by the company of about 96,000 tons of common coal and 7,000 tons of cannel, *ib.* 1718——Net cost of 2 *s.* 9 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet for the gas of the company at the consumer's meter, *ib.* 1722——Circumstance of the 7½ per cent. shares of the company being now at a discount, *ib.* 1756–1758. 1761, 1762——Amount of capital authorised to be raised under the Act 27 & 28 Vict., and amount actually raised hitherto, *ib.* 1794–1803.

Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 296——Return ordered by the Committee, containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, prices, &c., for several years past, *ib.* 313–317——Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coals used and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *ib.* 329.

See also *Leakage. Mains. Testing Arrangements.*

Plymouth. Charge of 2 *s.* 9 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet now made for gas in Plymouth, the illuminating power being thirteen candles, *Henderson* 2089–2092——Favourable position of the Plymouth Company in regard to capital, *ib.* 2093–2100. 2122–2135——Increase of the capital of the company, under the Act of 1855, when the maximum price was fixed at 6 *s.*, and the illuminating power at ten candles, *ib.* 2101–2104——Gradual reduction made in the price, the maximum dividend of ten per cent. having been reached, *ib.* 2105–2108.

Comparison in detail of the working expenses, cost of production, labour, &c., in Plymouth and in London; considerable economy in the former case as compared with the latter, so that gas cannot be produced so cheaply in London as at Plymouth, *Henderson* 2109 *et seq.*——Circumstance of a profit of 8 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet being sufficient to pay a dividend of ten per cent. on the capital at Plymouth, whilst in London a profit of 1 *s.* 4 *d.* is required to pay a similar dividend, *ib.* 2133–2139. 2222. 2233.

Large advance in the price of Newcastle coal at Plymouth, and still more so in the case of cannel, whilst the value of the residual products has diminished, *Henderson* 2146–

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Plymouth—continued.

2153——Examination with further reference to the cost of labour, &c., at Plymouth; explanation hereon that in stating in 1854 that gas could be produced as cheaply in London as in Plymouth, witness omitted to take into account the item of wages, *Henderson* 2196–2206. 2215–2232——Explanation as to the Plymouth Company having for some time charged 6*s.* per 1,000 feet, whereas at present they pay ten per cent. at 2*s.* 9*d.* per 1,000 feet, *ib.* 2207–2214. 2226, 2227.

Portobello. Increase in the price of gas at Portobello from 5*s.* to 5*s.* 5*d.*, on account of the increased price of cannel coal, *Reid* 2323.

Pressure. See *Leakage.*

PRICE:

1. *Effect of the Act of* 1860; *Reductions since made.*
2. *Calculations as to the Price proper to be charged.*
3. *Absence of Increase of Consumption through Reduction of Price.*
4. *Question of a Graduated Scale of Prices.*
5. *Necessity of fixing the Illuminating Power conjointly with the Price.*
6. *Willingness of the Companies to Supply* 14*-candle Gas at* 3*s.* 6*d. per* 1,000 *Cubic Feet.*
7. *Proposition of the Board of Trade as to Reduction of Price.*
8. *Prices of each Company in different Years.*
9. *Maximum Price fixed by Local Acts of Parliament.*
10. *Comparison of the Prices in London and Provincial Towns.*
11. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *Effect of the Act of* 1860; *Reductions since made:*

Illustration of the anomalous prices charged under the present system, *Stevenson* 334——Great want of uniformity of prices under the districting system further adverted to, *ib.* 447–453——Failure of the Act of 1860 to meet the just expectations of the public as regards illuminating power and price, *Beal* 915–917——Considerable benefit experienced by the consumers through the reduction in price since the Act of 1860, *ib.* 995. 1010–1012——Question further considered as to the advantage conferred by the Act of 1860, though it has fallen far short of the expectations of its promoters, *ib.* 1006–1032.

Circumstance of the Phœnix Company charging 4*s.* at one side of the Walworth-road, whilst the South Metropolitan Company charge only 3*s.* 4*d.* on the other side, *Innes* 1594–1601——Obligation upon the companies to reduce the price if a margin is available after the reserve fund comes to ten per cent. of the capital, *ib.* 1604, 1605——Reduction in December 1865 in the price of cannel gas from 6*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*, and of common gas from 4*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*, *Evans* 1816–1820——Reduction of prices at Christmas 1865, though there was no legal obligation to do so, *Bush* 1991, 1992——Reduction made in the price of the Equitable Company at Midsummer 1865, *Brothers* 2599–2602.

Object of the districting arrangement to enable the companies to incease their dividends without raising the price, which otherwise would have been necessary, *Barber* 3933——Provision in the districting deed relative to the price, as affected by the new arrangement, *ib.* 3946 —— Exceptional circumstance under which some consumers had their prices raised under the districting, *ib.* 3953——Reduction of price by the Western Gas Company from 6*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*, at Lady Day 1865, without any previous agitation having led thereto, *ib.* 3963–3966——Inability of witness to state whether the consumers were dissatisfied with the districting arrangement, as leading to the necessary consumption in many instances of cannel gas at 6*s.*, in lieu of common gas at 4*s.*, *ib.* 4078–4087.

2. *Calculations as to the Price proper to be charged:*

Belief as to the accuracy of a calculation by witness, in 1866, that 12-candle gas could be supplied in London for about 2*s.* 10*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, so as to give a profit of ten per cent., *Hughes* 56–62——Estimate that 18-candle gas may be supplied at 3*s.* 4*d.* or 3*s.* 6*d.*, giving a profit of ten per cent.; details in support of this estimate, *ib.* 61–88.

Calculation, in detail, to the effect that the illuminating power to be given under the Bill before the Committee should be fixed at eighteen candles, and the price at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *Frankland* 193 *et seq.*——Calculated return of 6*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* per cent. upon all the capital of the companies, with a light of eighteen candles, and a price of 3*s.* 6*d.*, *ib.* 196.

Careful consideration of the question of gas supply to the Metropolis upon which witness has arrived at the conclusion that 18-candle gas may be supplied at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, yielding a profit of ten per cent.; details hereon, *Stevenson* 285–330——Witness considers that 18-candle gas may be supplied in London at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, yielding a profit of ten per cent., *Cleminshaw* 603–607——Price and illuminating power of gas at Manchester and Liverpool adverted to, in support of the conclusion that 18-candle gas may be provided in London, so as to give a profit of ten per cent. at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, *ib.* 608–613.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

PRICE—continued.

2. *Calculations as to the Price proper to be charged*—continued.

Conclusion that a price of 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet would be a fair price for 18-candle gas; reference hereon to offers of the Corporation of London and of the Metropolitan Board to supply at that price, *Beal* 934, 935. 978–994——Expediency of the consumers generally concurring in the views of the Metropolitan Board and of the Corporation, in favour of 18-candle gas at the price of 3*s.* 6*d.*, *ib.* 984–994.

Statement that if the Phœnix Company were compelled to give 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, they would incur a positive loss of 1*d.* per 1,000 feet, *Innes* 1507–1514 —— Inability of the Chartered Company to pay any dividend at all, if required to give 18-candle gas at the reduced price proposed by the Bill, *Evans* 1871–1873——Belief that it would be ruin to the London companies if required to supply 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, *Finlay* 2852, 2853——Difficulty in calculating the price at which the Metropolis could be supplied by a new company on a large scale, *ib.* 2920–2924.

Calculation that, in order to keep up the present dividends, if 18-candle gas be supplied, the charge should be 5*s.* 4*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, supposing the consumption not to be diminished, *Hawksley* 4748–4754——Estimate of 5*s.* 8*d.* as the charge required in the first year or so, on account of the decreased consumption, *ib.* 4750. 4754, 4755.

Accounts explanatory of the plans of Mr. Hughes, Dr. Frankland and Mr. Stevenson, for supplying London with 18-candle gas at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *App.* 331–334 —— Estimate, by Mr. Clemmshaw, of the cost of making 18-candle gas in London, as opposed to the estimate of the five engineers representing the metropolitan companies, *ib.* 334.

Paper prepared by Mr. Hawksley, showing the cost of gas at the consumer's meter, of various illuminating power on certain assumed data, *App.* 335.

3. *Absence of Increase of Consumption through Reduction of Price:*

Evidence to the effect that reduction of price has little or no influence upon the consumption, *Paddon* 1241–1243. 1287–1289; *Brothers* 2670–2677; *Finlay* 2876–2878. 2906; *Chubb* 3060–3070.

4 *Question of a Graduated Scale of Prices:*

Preference for a graduated scale of prices in the Bill, as introduced by Sir Stafford Northcote, rather than the price of 3*s.* 6*d.*, as approved of by the Corporation and the Metropolitan Board, *Beal* 978–981.

5. *Necessity of fixing the Illuminating Power conjointly with the Price:*

Opinion as to the necessity of fixing by Act of Parliament the illuminating power, if the price is to be fixed, *Heron* 518, 519.

6. *Willingness of the Companies to supply* 14*-candle Gas at* 3*s.* 6*d. per* 1,000 *Cubic Feet:*

Readiness expressed by the companies to supply 14-candle gas at 4*s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, subject to modification from time to time, *Baxter* 4649, 4650.

Proposition on the part of the gas companies for the supply of 14-candle gas at 4*s.*, *Ev. p.* 263.

7. *Proposition of the Board of Trade as to Reduction of Price:*

Correspondence between Mr. Baxter and Mr. Wyatt, as representing respectively the gas companies and the Board of Trade, upon the questions of price, arbitration, &c., *Ev. pp.* 267–269.

Proposition submitted on the part of the Board of Trade, that present prices be continued till 1st January 1869, *Ev. p.* 272——Also that after 1st January 1869 the price be 3*s.* 9*d.*, subject to revision as duly provided for, *ib.*

8. *Prices of each Company in different Years:*

Returns showing the prices charged by each company in the Metropolis in different years, *App.* 303 *et seq.*

9. *Maximum Price fixed by Local Acts of Parliament:*

Table showing the maximum price prescribed by various Acts of Parliament from 1856 to 1866, with the date of each Act, *App.* 323, 324.

10. *Comparison of the Prices in London and Provincial Towns:*

List of ninety-nine companies charging as high as the London companies, *App.* 325, 326——List of thirty-two companies charging lower than the London companies, *ib.* 326.

11. *Conclusions*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Price—continued.

11. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*.

Resolution of the Committee that the supply of gas in London ought to be controlled in favour of the consumer, either by means of an effective competition, or, if the system of an exclusive supply be maintained, by means of effective regulation, *Ev. p.* 261.

Dissatisfaction expressed by the Committee with the offer to supply 14-candle gas at 4 *s.*, *Ev. p.* 264.

Proposal on the part of the Committee to insert a price in the Bill, such price to be subject to periodical revision, *Ev. p.* 264.

Statement by the Committee that the Act of 1860, and the arrangement sanctioned by that Act, have been eminently favourable to the companies, and have not been such as adequately to protect the consumers, *Ev. p.* 265.

Representation by the Committee to the counsel for the Bill as to the propriety of the Board of Trade taking an active part in bringing the question of price and illuminating into distinct form before the Committees, *Ev. p.* 265.

Statement by the Committee, on 16th July, that they are prepared to accept, as an initial price and power, the proposal made by the Board of Trade that the price be 3 *s.* 9 *d.* for 16-candle gas from 1 January 1869, *Ev. p.* 269——Intention of the Committee that the price shall be revised from time to time, *ib.* 270.

Sanction given by the Committee to the arrangement as to the reduction of price to 3 *s.* 9 *d.*, subject to further revision, so as to secure to the consumer the full benefits to which they are entitled, *Ev. p.* 274.

Provisions of the Act of 1860 in regard to reduction of price when the profits exceed the prescribed amount, *Rep.* vii——Principle upon which the Committee have felt bound not to recommend any compulsory and unconditional interference with prices already conceded to the producers, *ib.* ix.

Conclusion as to the reduction of price to be expected from economy of expenditure concurrently with increased consumption, *Rep.* x–xii——Slight concession involved in the proposal of the companies for a maximum price of 4 *s.*, and a minimum illuminating power of fourteen candles, *ib.* xii, xiii.

Grounds for disapproving of a fixed price of 3 *s.* 9 *d.* or 3 *s.* 6 *d.* as compared with a plan of reduction by means of periodical revision, *Rep.* xiii, xiv——Explanation as to the reduction of price which would have been effected under the Bill if the companies had accepted the decision of the Committee, *ib.* xv.

See also *Act of* 1860. *Appeal to Home Secretary. Arbitration. Brighton. Cannel. Chartered Gas Company. Coal. Coke. Competition. Cost of Production. Districting Arrangement. Dividends. Edinburgh. Equitable Gas Company. Glasgow. Hastings. Illuminating Power. Imperial Gas Company. Manchester. Nottingham. Phœnix Gas Company. Plymouth. Provincial Towns. Residual Products. Rochdale. Salford. Surrey Consumers' Gas Company. Vestries. Western Gas Company.*

Pritchard, Lewis William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer to the Western Gas Company, 4097, 4098——Practice of the company to work up to a standard of 21 ½ or 22-candle gas in order to ensure twenty candles to the consumers, 4099, 4100——Advance of about 4 *s.* a ton in the price of Wigan cannel within the last few years, 4101–4104——Inability of the company to procure cannel from North Wales on satisfactory terms, 4105, 4106——Use chiefly of Rosebridge and Kirklees coal, from the Wigan cannel pits, in order to produce 20-candle gas, 4107–4110.

Estimate of 4 *d.* or 5 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet as the additional cost to the London companies if required to supply gas up to eighteen candles; that is, including 1 ½ *d.* per 1,000 feet for improved purification by lime, 4111-4114——Inability of witness to produce 20-candle gas at a lower cost than that now incurred by the Western Company, 4115, 4116. 4169——Reason for using a batswing burner instead of an argand burner for testing cannel gas, 4117–4120.

Consideration of Dr. Frankland's estimate of the gross and net cost of the manufacture of cannel gas; inaccuracy of Dr. Frankland's figures as to the production of gas per ton of coals, as to the leakage, value of the residual products, &c., 4120-4160——Loss by leakage, &c., at the rate of fifteen per cent. in the case of the Western Company, 4148——Deposit of hydro-carbons in the pipes of the company at their furthest distance from the works, notwithstanding that the best means are adopted for preventing such deposit, 4161–4169.

Examination as to the actual net cost of the Western Company's 20-candle gas being less than a certain estimate of the cost of 18-candle gas; increase in the price of cannel to which, as well as to other causes, this difference of estimate is attributable, 4170–4187. 4273–4277——Particulars with reference to the capital of the company, and

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Pritchard, Lewis William. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

the proportion of capital per ton of coal carbonised; question hereon as to capital having been charged with certain works of renewal or reconstruction, 4188-4215. 4270-4272.

Larger quantity represented by the colliery weight allowed for cannel when the price was lower, the "ingrain" being now much less than was formerly allowed, 4217, 4218 ——Consideration of the question whether less capital is not required for establishing a cannel gas company than a common gas company; grounds for dissenting from this view, 4219-4269.

Profits. See *Dividends.*

Provincial Towns. Statement of the price of gas and the illuminating power in the chief cities and towns throughout England and Scotland, *Hughes* 33-55——Higher prices charged in some towns where the companies' Bills were not opposed in Parliament; rate of dividend in such places, *ib.* 112-117——Opinion that the price should be reduced in the several places now supplying at or about 4*s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *ib.* 140-142——Mention of several towns where the coal used for gas making is obtained at a very low price, *Barber* 4022.

Table showing the minimum illuminating power prescribed by various Acts of Parliament from 1856 to 1866, with the date of each Act and the maximum price, *App.* 323, 324——List of ninety-nine companies charging as high as the London companies, *ib.* 325, 326——List of thirty-two companies charging lower than the London companies, *ib.* 326.

Return showing the amount of capital of each provincial gas company per ton of coal, per 100*l.* gas rental, and per million feet of gas sold, *App.* 326.

Public Lights. Amendment required in the Act of 1860 as regards arbitration in the event of disputes about the price of supply of the public lights, *Beal* 945-948——Want of an improved burner for the lamps in St. James's parish, *ib.* 947.

Statement in explanation of the higher price charged by the Imperial Company for the public lamps in St. Pancras than in Marylebone, *Chubb* 3292-3309. 3321-3330——Explanation relative to the supply of gas by the Western Company to the public lamps in St. James's; a larger supply is given than is required by the terms of the contract, *Barber* 4023-4031——Inadequacy of the burner used for lighting the streets, *ib.* 4030——Several causes which render public lamps the worst consumers, *Hawksley* 4805.

Returns showing the prices charged by the several companies for the supply of street lamps, *App.* 304, *et seq.*

Purchase of Works. Omission from the Bill of 1867, as referred to the Committee, of the clause which it originally contained with reference to purchase of the works of the existing companies by the Metropolitan Board, *Rep.* viii, ix.

Purification of Gas. Improvement if the London gas were purified by lime instead of by oxide of iron, *Stevenson*, 355-359——Purification of the gas of witness's company at Edinburgh by means of lime; facility for carrying out this process, *Reid* 2480-2485——Increased cost of 1¼*d.* per 1,000 feet on account of the lime purification about to be applied by the Western Gas Company——*Barber* 4006, 4007. 4069-4071——Cost of 1½*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet for improved purification by lime, *Pritchard* 4113, 4114.

Sanitary obstacle to the use of lime as a means of getting rid of sulphur, *Hawksley* 4786——Means of thoroughly purifying gas without any nuisance being created during the process; additional cost, however, of about 1*d.* per 1,000 feet, *ib.* 4952-4955.

Statement in support of clause 32 of the Bill, providing that the gas supplied by the companies shall be wholly free from sulphuretted hydrogen; question considered hereon as to the test to be applied, *Letheby* 4972-4988. *See* also *Sulphur.*

Purity of Supply. Important advantage as regards purity of atmosphere by using cannel gas instead of common gas, *Hughes* 187, 188; *Frankland* 206-215——Single instance since 1860 of an application to the Home Secretary upon the question of purity; prompt remedy applied in this case, *Baxter* 4641. 4647.

Q.

Quality of Supply. See *Illuminating Power. Purification of Gas. Purity of Supply. Sulphur.*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

R.

Ratcliff Gas Company. Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital revenue and dividends, *App.* 297——Return ordered by the Committee containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, price, &c. for several years past, *ib.* 317——Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coals used, and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *ib.* 329.

Redditch. Manufacture of witness's gas at Redditch from Derbyshire coal, which gives an illuminating power of about eighteen candles, *Clift* 821—— Explanation as to witness charging 5*s.* and 5*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet at Redditch for 14-candle gas, *ib.* 860–869.

Reid John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer of the Edinburgh and Leith Gas Company; has had a long experience in the management of gasworks in Scotland, 2233–2236——Supply of Edinburgh and Leith by two companies, both using cannel coals only, 2237-2239——About 200,000,000 cubic feet of gas are supplied yearly by the Edinburgh and Leith Company, 2240, 2241——Various kinds of Scotch cannel used by the company, the illuminating power being from twenty-five to twenty-seven candles, 2242–2254——Average production of 10,000 cubic feet of gas per ton of cannel, 2248–2250. 2419–2421.

Cost of about 22½*d.* for cannel per 1,000 cubic feet of gas sold in the year ending May 1866; 2255–2258——Total of about sixteen per cent. of unaccounted-for gas, the amount having formerly been twenty per cent.; considerable reduction in the leakage in recent years, 2259–2276——Examination as to the reduction to be allowed for the cost of cannel per 1,000 cubic feet of gas in respect of the receipts for coke and other residual products; statement hereon as to the very inferior quality and low value of cannel coke, 2277–2316.

Average of 16*s.* 3*d.* per ton as the cost to witness's company of all the cannel used in the year ending May 1866; 2305——Necessity of the two companies in Edinburgh raising their price from 4*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.* in October 1866, on account of the advancing price of Parratt or cannel coal; due inquiry made before adopting this increase, 2317–2331——Particulars as to the increase of prices charged in various towns of Scotland, owing to the enhanced price of cannel, 2322-2329.

Classification of Scotch cannels into three descriptions, with reference to the illuminating power of the gas produced, 2332–2346——Details as to the available supply, and the prices of the several cannels; considerable increase of prices, owing to the increased demand for gas making and other causes, 2347 *et seq.*—— Difficulty experienced by witness's company early in the present year, in making contracts for cannel; prices eventually agreed upon, 2371–2387. 2393–2397.

Further increase in the price of Scotch cannel, if used by the London Company, in order to produce 18-candle gas, 2390, 2391—— Very general increase in the price of gas in Scotland further adverted to, 2414–2418——Very high illuminating power of the gas obtained from Boghead coal, 2424–2427——Absence of any strong competition between the two companies at Edinburgh, there being an understanding as to the districts served by each, 2428–2441. 2471–2474.

Character of the levels over which the mains are laid in Edinburgh and London respectively; doubt expressed hereon as to the leakage in London being unduly high, 2442–2454. 2458–2461—— Payment of eight per cent. by the Edinburgh and Leith Company for one or two years, previous to last year, 2463——Non-payment of any dividend in the past year, on account of the increasing price of cannel; reservation of the profits which amounted to only 4¾ per cent., 2463–2469 ——Total of about 130 miles of main laid down by witness's company, 2475——Large increase of works necessary, if the illuminating power were reduced to fifteen or sixteen candles, 2478——Purification of the gas of witness's company by means of lime; facility for carrying out this process, 2480–2485.

Reserve Fund. Returns showing the amounts set aside by each company as reserve in different years, *App.* 303 *et seq.*

Provisions of the Act of 1860, with reference to the formation of a reserve fund, when the dividend has reached ten per cent.; also with respect to the disposal of the fund, *Rep.* vii.

See also *Phœnix Gas Company.*

Residual Products:

Statement as to the estimated value of the residual products in London, the result being that the coal or raw material costs 13*s.* 9*d.* per ton, *Hughes* 124–134——Certainty involved in witness's calculations as to the value of coke and of the residual products generally,

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Residual Products—continued.

generally, *Hughes* 179*-182——Calculation as to the value respectively of the coke, the ammoniacal liquor and the tar, *Frankland* 196——Equal value of coke from Wigan coal, as from Newcastle coal, *Stevenson* 314-316——Prices calculated by witness for coke, tar, breeze, &c., *ib.* 316——Statement that the price of coal does not very materially affect the price of gas, on account of the price of the residual products varying with the cost of coals, *Clift* 837, 838. 909.

Value of the residual products adverted to as not having much relation to the cost of coals, *Innes* 1494——Average of 5 *s.* per ton as the amount received for Wigan cannel coke in London, *ib.* 1501-1506——Limited quantity of cannel coke produced by the Phœnix Company, the price averaging about 5 *s.* per chaldron, and never exceeding 6 *s.*, *ib.* 1684-1690. 1712-1713——Average of 8 *s.* 6 *d.* or 9 *s.* as the price realised by common coke, the price varying greatly at different times, *ib.* 1691-1696——Larger quantity of coke from a ton of Newcastle coal than from a ton of cannel, *ib.* 1708-1711——Richer character of the tar and oil from cannel than from common gas, *ib.* 1716, 1717.

Very inferior quality and low price of the coke from Wigan cannel, *Evans* 1864-1870——Examination as to the reduction to be allowed for the cost of cannel, per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, in respect of the receipts for coke and other residual products; statement hereon as to the very inferior quality and low value of cannel coke, *Reid* 2277-2316——Circumstance of the rise on the price of coal having been accompanied by a fall in the value of the residual products, *Brothers* 2639-2642. 2733-2740——Valueless character of the coke from Scotch cannel, *Finlay* 2807-2809.

Absence of any corresponding increase in the value of residual products, when coals increase in price, *Chubbs* 3099——Particulars relative to the quantity and price of coke produced from the coal, used by witness's company; varying value of the coke irrespectively of the increased price of coals, *Kirkham* 3402-3416——The increased price of coal is by no means compensated for by an increased price of the residual products, *ib.* 3403——Dissent from the calculation of Mr. Cleminshaw as to the value of the several products, *ib.* 3463-3470——Further statement that the price of coke does not vary with the price of coal; average of about 8 *s.* 6 *d.* a chaldron as the price of Newcastle coal, *ib.* 3483-3509. 3518-3527.

Variation in the price of coke and breeze irrespectively of the price of coal, *Harris* 3627-3634. 3658-3662——Small value of the coke produced from Welsh cannel, *ib.* 3663, 3664——Witness produces some samples of oils deposited from cannel gas; almost valueless character of these, and of the liquid products generally at the present time, *Campbell* 4458-4471. 4476, 4477. 4478-4485—— Great decrease in the value of residual products, *Hawksley* 4770.

Accounts for the year 1866 showing the receipts of each company in respect of residual products, *App.* 288-300.

Value realised by the products per ton of coals, in the case of each of the companies, for the year 1866, *App.* 337.

Retorts. Increased cost of retorts and fire-bricks in London as compared with Salford, *Halls* 3779-3783.

Revenue, or Gas Rental. Statement showing the revenue of each company for the year 1866, *App.* 288-300.

Illustration in the case of the Western Company of the great increase of gas rental in the last ten years, *App.* 328.

Large and continuous increase in the revenues of the companies on account of the great increase of consumption, *Rep.* x.

Revision of Capital. See *Capital.*

Revision of Price. Willingness of the Committee to insert machinery in the Bill for the periodical revision of the price, *Ev. p.* 264.

Statement by the Committee that they intend the price should be so settled from time to time as to yield the maximum dividend, provided the companies exercise due care and management, *Ev. p.* 270.

Conclusion that the plan of periodical revision is one which may be adopted with great mutual advantage, *Rep.* xiii, xiv. *See* also *Arbitration.*

Rochdale. Sundry particulars relative to the cost of production of gas at Rochdale, showing that 21-candle gas costs 2 *s.* 8½ *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet at the consumer's meter, *Bell* 1038-1064——Unduly large sum given for the works at Rochdale by the corporation, *ib.* 1079-1086. 1108——Increase of late in the price of cannel and other coal used at the works, whilst the value of the residual products has not risen, *ib.* 1089-1107.

Rofe, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Gas engineer; was for thirteen years connected with the gas manufacture at Wigan, 4278, 4279——Requirement of nearly all, if not entirely all cannel, to make gas of 20-candle power as supplied to the consumer, 4280, 4281——Larger quantity of hydro-carbons in the case of cannel gas than of ordinary

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Rofe, John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

nary gas, 4282——Deposit of hydro-carbons by cannel gas over much longer distances from the works than the first 1,000 yards; loss thereby of illuminating power, 4282. 4289–4293. 4334*–4338.

Considerable variation in the illuminating power derivable from cannel obtained from different localities, 4283, 4284. 4295–4299. 4333, 4334——Satisfactory and economical manner in which the works of the Western Gas Company are conducted; opinion that the proportion of capital for each ton of coal carbonised is not excessive, 4285, 4286. 4310–4332——Loss of seventeen per cent. of the Western Company's gas, by leakage, &c., adverted to as not being excessive, 4287, 4288——Fairness of testing gas at the distance of 1,000 yards from the works, 4292. 4293—— Means of producing 24-candle gas from the best picked Lancashire cannel; witness has never known twenty-six candles produced, 4300–4306.

Romans, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is interested in the sale of the Marquis of Lothian's cannel, and states that no scarcity of this coal is apprehended, 793–796—— The illuminating power of the Lothian cannel gas is more than thirty-three candles, and the production is 12,500 cubic feet to the ton, 797–799——Increase since last year in the price of Lothian cannel, and of Newcastle coal in the London market, so that the estimate then made by witness that 10 per cent. profit might be realised at the price of 3*s.* 6*d.* would not hold good at the present time, 800–810.

S.

Salaries. Statement in explanation and defence of the remuneration given by the companies to the directors and secretaries; particulars in the case of the Phœnix Company, *Innes* 1534–1541. 1741–1747——Amount of increase since 1864 in the salaries of the officers of the Chartered Company, *Evans* 1924–1930——Details relative to the salaries in the case of the Chartered Company in 1864 and 1866; annual increase in some cases, *Bush* 2031–2056. 2071–2082.

Salford:

Statement of the illuminating power, price, &c. of the gas at Salford when witness was engaged at the Salford Gasworks; considerable increase in the price of labour since that period, *Brothers* 2741–2751.

Average of twenty candles as the illuminating power of the Salford gas, it being necessary to use six-sevenths of cannel, and sometimes in winter all cannel, in order to ensure 20-candle gas to the consumer, *Halls* 3688–3695——Contract for common coal at the rate of 11*s.* 9*d.* a ton, *ib.* 3716–3719——Charge of 3*s.* for public lamps within the borough, the charge outside being 4*s.*, *ib.* 3773–3778——Charge of 3*s.* 4*d.* per 1,000 feet within the borough, there being also supplies outside the borough at 3*s.* 8*d.* and 4*s.*, according to the distance, *ib.* 3769–3772——Loss of twelve per cent. of gas at Salford, by leakage, condensation, &c., *ib.* 3733–3737. 3805–3808. 3815, 3816.

Calculation showing, that after deducting the receipts for residual products, the cost of 20-candle gas at Salford is 2*s.* 2¾*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *Halls* 3738–3743. 3799–3814——Examination relative to the capital invested in the Salford Gasworks, and the arrangement for setting aside a sinking fund for paying off the capital, *ib.* 3744–3768——Amount divided as profit among the several districts, irrespectively of the rate of interest paid upon the bonds, *ib.* 3755–3762——Statement showing that the value of coke, tar, and ammoniacal water at Salford does not follow the increased price of cannel or gas coal, *ib.* 3784–3794——Further particulars with reference to the actual cost of coal, &c., and the net cost of the gas supplied, allowing for unaccounted-for gas, *ib.* 3799–3816.

Management of the corporation gasworks at Salford, by a committee of which witness has been a member since 1853, and is now chairman, *Cawley* 4528–4531——Use exclusively of Wigan cannel, both at the Manchester and Salford gasworks, until a recent period, thirty-three per cent. of coal being now used at the former works, *ib.* 4532–4534——Experience of the Salford works adverted to as proving the impracticability of getting the high illuminating power stated by Mr. Cleminshaw, unless by using a 1 cannel, *ib.* 4535–4537——Average quality of 18 or 19-candle gas at a distance of about 1,000 yards from the works, *ib.* 4535–4537. 4618.

Explanation that the net capital of the Salford works stood at 161,000*l.* twelve months ago, about 12,000*l.* having been written off for depreciation; addition to be made in respect of capitalising the ground-rent, *Cawley* 4575–4594——Average of about 6*l.* 10*s.* of capital for every ton of coal carbonised, *ib.* 4589. 4595——Accuracy of the figures submitted by Mr. Hall, relative to the Salford works, and the cost of production, &c., *ib.* 4596, 4597—— Great increase of late in the value of residual products at Salford, *ib.* 4624.

Scotland. Very general increase in the price of gas in Scotland, owing to the increased price of cannel; numerous instances in illustration, *Reid* 2317–2331. 2414–2418; *Young* 2543.——*See* also *Cannel Coal and Gas.* *Edinburgh.* *Glasgow.*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Select Committee of 1860. Examination relative to the proceedings on the 7th June 1860, before the Committee of that year, as regards the views entertained by that Committee upon the question of price, illuminating power, &c.; these views or impressions were materially modified as the inquiry went on, *Baxter* 4671, 4672. 4683. 4684.

See also *Act of* 1860.

Service Pipes. Occurrence of leakage of gas chiefly from service pipes, rather than from mains, *Kirkham* 3422-3427; *Hawksley* 4727-4731. 4787, 4788.

Shale Oil. Large yield of good gas to be obtained from shale oil and bitumen, *Stevenson* 340-346. 375-377.

Site of Works. Statement as to the advantage of a site at North Woolwich for the erection of gasworks for the supply of the city of London; saving of expense in coal as well as in the sale of the residual products, *Clift* 816-820. 843-848——Eligible sites which may be obtained round London for new gasworks, having advantages over the existing works as regards the cost of coal, and the price obtained for the residual products, *ib.* 852-859. 904-910——Advantage of a site on the river at North Woolwich for gasworks for the supply of the metropolis, *Finlay* 2915-2919——Very slight leakage or loss of gas through being conveyed into London in mains from works at a distance of some miles from London, *Hawksley* 4789-4792.

South London Gas Company. Transfer of the proprietary of the South London Company to the Phœnix Company in 1824, the first Act having been passed in 1820, *Innes* 1370-1371.

South Metropolitan Gas Company. Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 298.

Return ordered by the Committee, containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, price, &c. for several years past, *App.* 318.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coal used and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

Stevenson. George Wilson. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Engineer; has had considerable experience in the construction of gasworks and the production of gas, 273-280——Reference to the Brighton Gas Bill of 1866, as limiting the price to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 feet, the illuminating power having been fixed at fourteen sperm candles, 281-284——Careful consideration of the question of gas supply to the Metropolis, upon which witness has arrived at the conclusion that 18-candle gas may be supplied at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, yielding a profit of ten per cent.; details hereon, 285-330.

Grounds for calculating that gas works and working capital for the supply of London would be covered by an outlay of 20 *s.* per head of the population, or an aggregate sum of 3,000,000 *l.*, 293-307——With reference to the competing company at Brighton, who got their Bill last Session, their works have not yet been commenced, 301, 302——Calculation, including the cost of Wigan cannel of Newcastle coal, and of manufacture, distribution, loss by leakage, &c., showing that, after taking credit for the residual products, gas of eighteen candles may be supplied at a cost to the companies of 2 *s.* 10 *d.* per 1,000 feet, 309-329.

Effect of the districting arrangement in depriving the consumers of the benefit of competition; hence the greater necessity for Parliamentary interference, 330-334——Illustration of the anomalous prices charged under the present system, 334——Enhanced cost, owing to the superintendence and management being divided between thirteen separate companies, 335, 336——Causes of the diminution in quality, and quantity by gas travelling a distance through the mains; allowance made for this in witness's calculations, 337-339.

Materials available for increasing the illuminating power, irrespectively of the use of cannel coal; favourable experiments being made on this score, 340-348. 370-378——Belief as to there being ample supplies of cannel coal, 349, 350——Excellent illuminating power and pure quality of the cannel gas used in Edinburgh and Glasgow, 351, 352——Increased use of gas in the west end of London, if the illuminating power were up to eighteen candles, and if the quality were purer, 353, 354——Improvement if the London gas were purified by lime instead of by oxide of iron, 355-359.

Statement, that owing to the improved burner used since 1860, there has been an addition of nearly two candles to the illuminating power, 360-369——With regard to the corporation supply at Halifax, the minimum price is 3 *s.* 2½ *d.*, and the maximum price 4 *s.*, 379-387——Information relative to the cost of coal used at the Halifax works in 1861, and the cost at the present time, 388-398——Examination explanatory of the large capital represented by the corporation works at Halifax, with reference to the population, 399-415. 460-465.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Stevenson, George Wilson. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Evidence as to the circumstances under which the Brighton Company, for which witness is engineer, got its Bill last Session, the price having been fixed at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* both for witness's company and the Brighton and Hove Company, 416-424——Question considered as to the effect of the reduced price of the Brighton and Hove Company in reducing the dividend, 425-432.

Further examination in support of the view, that the rate of dividend to be allowed in London should bear reference to a revised amount of capital, 433-442. 471-473——Conclusion as to districting being a necessity in London, 443-446——Great want of uniformity of prices under the districting system further adverted to, 447-453——Facility by a revision of capital of arriving at a uniform and moderate price, 452, 453. 467-473——Inability of the companies to raise new capital at seven per cent. since last Session, on account of the financial pressure, 451-459.

Stobart, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Supplies large quantities of gas coal from Durham to the London market; testifies to the late rise of price, and anticipates a still further rise, 3681-3684.

Suburban Districts. Statement on the part of the Metropolitan Board that there was no intention to introduce any clauses affecting the suburban gas companies, *Ev. p.* 3.

Much smaller rental per mile of main in the suburban districts than in the crowded districts, *Innes* 1411-1414.

Question submitted to the Committee as to the continuance of an additional 3 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet in outlying districts, *Ev. p.* 272.

Difference of price charged in many towns, accordingly as the houses are within or without a certain boundary line, *Hawksley* 4779, 4780.

Sugg, William Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Testifies to the exceedingly careful and accurate manner in which certain experiments were recently made at Manchester by Dr. Odling (accompanied by Mr. Wood and witness) relative to the illuminating power of the gas, 3872-3886——The burner used was the same as that generally used in testing the cannel gas in London and was made by witness, 3879. 3916-3918.

Examination to the effect that witness's improved burner now in use in London is the same as that used in 1860, with the exception that the new burner has a steatite top instead of an iron top, 3887-3915.

Sulphur. Great difficulty in determining the quantity of sulphur in gas, *Hawksley* 4785——Statement as to the small amount of sulphur in the gas now supplied by the London companies, *ib.* 4800-4803.

See also *Purification of Gas.*

Surrey Consumers Gas Company. Formation of the Surrey Consumers' Company in 1849 for the supply of common gas only, *Finlay* 2765-2767——Very favourable situation of the manufacturing station of the company on the banks of the Thames, *ib.* 2768-2772——Several arrears of back dividends paid since 1862, *ib.* 2772, 2778——Non-payment by the Company of any dividend for the first three years, the dividends having gradually increased since 1852, and having reached 10 per cent. in 1862, *ib.* 2776-2778.

Reduction of price to 4 *s.* in Midsummer 1866, the dividend having in consequence been reduced to nine per cent, *Finlay* 2778-2780. 2795, 2796——Average of 7⅜ per cent. paid in dividends since the commencement, *ib.* 2781-2783——Total subscribed capital of 210,000 *l.* and of 42,000 *l.* in bonds, *ib.* 2784-2787. 2925-2927——Statement of the total receipts and working expenses in 1866, the net profits having been 24,881 *l.*, *ib.* 2788-2794.

Average of thirteen candles as the illuminating power of the gas supplied by the company, *Finlay* 2797-2801——Quantity of cannel and of common coal used by the company, the former being about five per cent. of the whole, *ib.* 2802-2806. 2854-2856——Calculation that the actual cost of the gas sold is about 2 *s.* 6 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, an additional 1 *s.* 6 *d.* being required to pay a dividend of ten per cent. *ib.* 2810-2821——Non-provision of any reserve fund, *ib.* 2822-2824——Amount of the establishment expenses adverted to, *ib.* 2825, 2826——Disadvantage at which the company is placed in regard to distribution; considerable dividends nevertheless paid, *ib.* 2857-2875.

Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 299——Return ordered by the Committee, containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, price, &c., for several years past, *ib.* 319, 320——Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coal used, and the cost, the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *ib.* 329.

See also *Leakage.*

Report, 1867—*continued.*

T.

Testing Arrangements. Provision of testing houses by the Phœnix Company at about 1,000 yards from each of the manufacturing stations, *Innes* 1486——Erection by the Equitable Company of a testing house as provided by the Act, the examination of the gas not having resulted in any proceeding against the company, *Brothers* 2624-2631——Public supervision and test to which the gas of the Imperial Company is subject, there not having beeen, however, any legal proceeding against the company for breach of the Act of Parliament, *Kirkham* 3385-3399.

Reason for using a batswing instead of an argand burner for testing cannel gas, *Pritchard* 4117-4120——Fairness of testing gas at the distance of 1,000 yards from the works, *Rofe* 4292, 4293——Facility of carrying out inquiries into the quality of the gas, *Baxter* 4651, 4652.

Approval of the provision that the testing place shall be not less than 1,000 yards from the works, *Letheby* 4989, 4,990——Sufficiency of the protection under clause forty in regard to the quality of the gas not being varied from time to time during the day or night to the prejudice of the consumers, *ib.* 4991-4996. 5004-5010——Possible prejudice to the companies if the lowest of the testings during each day were to be the ruling test, *ib.* 4997-5003 ——Undue facility to the companies under Clause 54, as amended, in regard to improving the illuminating power during the day, if there had been any deficiency of quality, *ib.* 5017, 5018.

Decision by the Committee that the question of test shall be left to the Board of Trade and the gas referees, *Ev. p.* 279.

U.

Unaccounted-for Gas. See *Leakage.*

V.

Vestries. Claim of the metropolitan vestries to a municipal supply of gas as in Manchester, *Beal* 916——Omission of the vestries to carry out any of the duties which the Act of 1860 imposed upon them, *ib.*

Statement that the Bill of 1860 was so altered on re-committal that the delegates would but for the cost have thrown it up; examination as to the grounds for this statement, *Beal* 918-923. 960 *et seq.*——Numerous vestries or district boards represented by witness in the opinion that there should be one standard of illuminating power at a fair price, as a protection against the monopoly under the districting arrangement, *ib.* 926-935.

Examination with reference to the part taken by witness, as delegate in supporting the carrying on of the Bill of 1860 when shorn of its chief advantages; admission as to the Act having conferred some substantial benefits on the consumers, *Beal* 960-976. 995. 1006-1034.

Copy of a letter from Mr. Beal, dated 14th August 1860, referring to the Bill then before the House of Lords as a compromise and as unsatisfactory in some respects, but urging the passing of the Bill as conferring several important benefits upon the consumers, *Ev. p.* 82-84.

Statement to the effect that the Bill of 1860 was got up by the consumers, or "delegates," but that after the proceedings before the Committee of the House of Commons the companies felt bound to offer no opposition to it in the Lords, *Baxter* 4638, 4639. 4673-4682——Opposition made to the Bill in the House of Lords by one vestry only, the compromise previously accepted not being interfered with, *ib.* 4638, 4639.

See also *Local or Independent Supply. Metropolitan Board of Works.*

W.

Water Companies. Expediency of a revision or re-arrangement of the capital accounts of the gas companies, as in the case of the water companies in 1852, *Beal* 916. 936-942. 957——Statement to the effect that there was no revision or reduction of the capital of the water companies in 1852, *Baxter* 4662-4665.

West End of London. Increased use of gas in the west end of London, if the illuminating power were up to eighteen candles, and if the quality were purer, *Stevenson* 353, 354.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Western Gas Company:

Due fulfilment by the Western Company of all the obligations imposed upon it by the Act of 1860, *Barber* 3954—— Payment by the Western Company of 32,000 *l.* since 1860, in respect of back dividends, whereas, but for the limitation under the Act, there was a further arrear of 103,000 *l.*, which might have been so paid, *ib.* 3955–3962——Present charge of 5*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cubic feet for the gas supplied by the company, it being all cannel gas, and averaging 21½ candles in illuminating power, *ib.* 3957.

Details as to the quantity of gas made and sold by the company, and the receipts and expenses under different heads, the result being a net profit of 23·66 *d.* per 1,000 cubic feet, *Barber* 3975–3977——Total of about 40,000 tons of coal used, of which ninety-three per cent. is Wigan cannel, *ib.* 3980. 3982——Very small balance left in 1866, after paying the dividend of ten per cent., *ib.* 3997–3999——Statement relative to the capital of the company, and the addition thereto, since 1860 and since 1865, *ib.* 4000–4002. 4032–4038. 4042–4054. 4088–4092——Calculation that, owing to the recent increase in the price of cannel, and other causes, the dividend may be reduced to 7½ per cent, *ib.* 4004–4011.

Good market of the company for its coke, the price of which does not, however, follow the price of cannel, *Barber* 4012–4014——Total of 107 miles of main belonging to the company, the number of consumers being 11,700, *ib.* 4039–4041——Statement as to the quantity of coal used by the company, and the quantity of gas produced in 1856 and 1866 respectively, *ib.* 4062–4068. 4075–4077. 4093–4096——There was no reconstruction of the works of the company in 1850 or 1851, *ib.* 4072–4074.

Examination as to the actual net cost of the Western Company's 20-candle gas being less than a certain estimate of the cost of 18-candle gas; increase in the price of cannel, to which, as well as to other causes, this difference is attributable, *Pritchard* 4170–4187. 4273–4277—— Particulars with reference to the capital of the company, and the proportions of capital per ton of coal carbonised; question hereon as to capital having been charged with certain works of renewal or reconstruction, *ib.* 4188. 4215. 4270–4272.

Satisfactory and economical manner in which the works of the Western Gas Company are conducted; opinion that the proportion of capital for each ton of coal carbonised is not excessive, *Rofe* 4285, 4286. 4310–4332——Grounds for concluding that there is nothing extravagant in the working of the Western Company in London, *Bartholomew* 4376–4390——Improved system of manufacture and purification at the works of the Western Gas Company, *Campbell* 4474, 4475.

Statement of accounts for the year 1866, showing the actual state and condition of the company as to capital, revenue, and dividends, *App.* 300.

Return ordered by the Committee, containing particulars as to capital, dividends, reserve, price, &c., for several years past, *App.* 320–322——Return showing the amount of capital, gas, rental, &c. before and since the districting arrangement, *App.* 328.

Table showing the total quantity of gas sold by the company in 1866, the tonnage of coals used, and the cost; the receipts for residual products, the general charges, the amount required to pay interest and statutory dividend, and the total capital, *App.* 329.

Reference by the Committee to the illustration in the case of this company of the great increase of consumption and of revenue, without a corresponding increase of capital, *Rep.* x.

See also *Cannel.* *Leakage.*

Wigan Cannel. See *Cannel.*

Williamson, John Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Mining engineer at Edinburgh; is well conversant with the supply and price of Scotch cannel, 1109–1111——Statement as to the great increase which has taken place in the price of different kinds of cannel coal, such increase being owing chiefly to the probable exhaustion of the coal-fields, 1112 *et seq.*—— Large increase, more especially in the price of Torbenhill coal, some of this coal being sent to London for gas purposes; its main use, however, being for distilling into oil, 1116–1121. 1133–1144——Circumstance of the Edinburgh gas companies having raised their prices 6*d.* per 1,000 feet in November last, 1129, 1130.

Wood, Alfred. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer and manager to the Hastings and St. Leonard's Gas Company, 1303, 1304——Charge of 4*s.* per 1,000 cubic feet for the gas supplied by the Company, the quality being fourteen candles, 1305–1307——Reduction of price from 5*s.* to 4*s.* in April 1865, and consequent reduction of dividend from ten to seven per cent., 1308–1313——Calculation that in order to supply 20-candle gas at Hastings at a profit of ten per cent., the price should be 5*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* 7*d.*, 1314.

Details relative to the cost of coal, and of distribution and management, &c., showing that a much higher price than 4*s.* is required to pay a dividend of ten per cent., 1315–1346. 1357–1368——Use of a small per centage of cannel in order to keep up the illuminating power to fourteen candles, 1322–1324. 1350, 1351——Impracticability of getting 10,000 cubic feet of gas from a ton of Newcastle coal, unless at a very low illuminating power, 1327–1331. 1352–1356.

[Second Examination.]—Corroborates the evidence of Dr. Odling as to the great care taking in recently testing the illuminating power of the Manchester gas, 3865–3871.

Report, 1867—*continued.*

Working Expenses. Tendency to an increase of working expenses, by using a higher quality of coal, *Innes* 1515-1517.

Opinion expressed by the Committee that the present working expenditure might and should be reduced, *Ev. p.* 262.

Willingness of the companies to recognise the appointment of a public auditor as a check upon the working expenses, *Ev. p.* 263.

Further conclusions of the Committee as to the economy to be effected in the working expenses, and as to the advantages of amalgamation on this score, *Rep.* xi, xii.

See also *Cost of Production.*

Wyatt, Richard Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—As agent for the Bill before the Committee, supplies some explanations on the subject of certain correspondence and negotiations between the promoters and the gas companies, 1–20.

Y.

Young, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is engineer to the Dalkeith Gas Company; has had twenty-seven years' experience as a gas engineer, 2486–2488——Supply of Dalkeith by only one company, there being no limitation as to price or quality, 2489–2499——Variety of cannels used by the company, the illuminating power being from twenty-five to twenty-six candles, 2500–2507——Production of about 10,000 cubic feet of gas per ton of cannel, 2503. 2548–2550——Loss in 1866 of fifteen per cent. of gas by leakage, exhalation, theft, &c.; instance of as much as thirty-three per cent. of unaccounted-for gas, 2508–2515.

Small sum derived by the Dalkeith Company from the sale of coke to their residual products, 2515–2522——Charge of 5*s.* per 1,000 feet for the gas, the dividend having been ten per cent. for several years, 2523–2526——Rapid increase for several years past in the price of cannel coal, whilst the growing demand in London will surely enhance the price still further, 2527–2542.

Increased price charged for gas by several companies in Scotland, 2543——Non-adoption for the present of any step as to raising the price in Dalkeith, 2544, 2545——Test by witness of the gas-producing power of Plashetts coal, it having given 10,000 cubic feet of 12-candle gas, whilst some common coal produced 10,000 feet of 8-candle gas, 2551–2555. 2563–2574——Total of 6,900*l.* as the present capital of the Dalkeith Company, dividend having hitherto been paid on only 4,500*l.*; 2556–2558——Charge at one period of 6*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 feet, the price having been only 5*s.* for the last four or five years, 2559–2562.

INDEX

TO

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

METROPOLIS GAS BILL.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
8 *August* 1867.

[*Price* 7 *d.*]

520—I.

Under 8 *oz.*

REPORTS

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.

(LONDON CITY IMPROVEMENT RATES BILL.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
15 *March* 1867.

Tuesday, 12*th February* 1867.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Local Government, and Local Taxation of the Metropolis.

Wednesday, 13*th February* 1867.

Committee nominated,—

Mr. Ayrton.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Beecroft.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Turner.
Mr. Locke.	Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Mill.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Hanbury.	

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Thursday, 21*st February* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the London City Improvement Rates Bill be committed to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c.

Tuesday, 5*th March* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c. (1866), be referred to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c.

Thursday, 7*th March* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report their Opinion to The House.

REPORTS.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed "to inquire into the Local Government and Local Taxation of the Metropolis";—Have considered the Matters to them referred, and have come to the following RESOLUTION, which they have agreed to Report to The House:—

That, pending the general inquiry referred to this Committee, it is inexpedient to empower the Corporation of London or any Local Authority within the Metropolitan Districts, except the Metropolitan Board of Works, to levy a Rate upon the Owners of Property for the purpose of making Improvements in the Metropolis.

LONDON CITY IMPROVEMENT RATES BILL.

Mr. Ayrton reported from the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c., to whom the London City Improvement Rates Bill was committed;—That they had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble of the Bill, but the same had not been proved to their satisfaction.

REPORTS

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.

(LONDON CITY IMPROVEMENT RATES BILL.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
15 *March* 1867.

135.

SECOND

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

AND

APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
6 *May* 1867.

Tuesday, 12*th February* 1867.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Local Government, and Local Taxation of the Metropolis.

Wednesday, 13*th February* 1867.

Committee nominated,—

Mr. Ayrton.
Mr. Tite.
Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Locke.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Mill.
Mr. Hanbury.
Lord John Manners.
Mr. Beecroft.
Mr. Turner.
Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Kekewich.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Thursday, 21*st February* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the London City Improvement Rates Bill be read a second time, and committed to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government and Local Taxation of the Metropolis.

Tuesday, 5*th March* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c. (1866), be referred to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c.

Thursday, 7*th March* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report their Opinion to The House.

Thursday, 28*th March* 1867.

Ordered, That the Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the existing state of Municipal Corporations in England and Wales, on the City of London [presented 24th April 1837];—and, Copy of Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the existing state of the Corporation of the City of London, together with the Minutes of Evidence [presented 11th May 1854], be referred to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c.

Monday, 6*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report their Opinion and Observations from time to time to The House.

SECOND REPORT - - - - - - - - - - - - p. iii
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE - - - - - p. viii
APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. xxiv

SECOND REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the LOCAL GOVERNMENT and LOCAL TAXATION of the METROPOLIS:——HAVE further considered the matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following SECOND REPORT:

THE nature of the local government of the metropolis having been explained in the Third Report of the Select Committee appointed in 1861 to inquire into it, your Committee need now only observe, that since that period the powers and duties of the local authorities in the metropolis have been considerably enlarged by recent Acts of Parliament. The present functions of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the manner in which they are discharged, are described in the report of that Board for the year 1866, which has already been laid before Parliament.

The Committee appointed in 1866 to inquire into the Local Government of the Metropolis, presented to the House in the last Session a Report on the Local Taxation of the Metropolis, which they concluded with the following recommendation:

"It remains to be considered whether the expenditure of the Metropolitan Board is of such a nature as that it would be just and reasonable to depart from the ordinary practice of imposing local burthens on the occupants of property for the year in which the rate is made. It will be observed from the foregoing account of the proceedings of the Metropolitan Board that nearly the whole of its expenditure and obligations have been incurred for the purpose of supplying wants arising from the defects of former administration of the affairs of the metropolis, and of effecting permanent improvements, which have tended to increase the value of property in the metropolis; that the works undertaken are of such magnitude that the charges for them have been extended by Parliament over many years; and that their effect will be felt long after all the charges have been defrayed; that the whole of this expenditure is of a novel character resulting from special legislation, imposing new and unforeseen burthens. In analogous cases, one moiety of the charge has been imposed upon the occupiers, and the other on the owners of property. Your Committee, therefore, recommend that in any arrangement of the financial resources of the Metropolitan Board a portion of the charge for permanent improvements and works should be borne by the owners of property within the metropolis, the rate being, in the first instance, paid by the occupier, and subsequently deducted from his rent, as is now provided in regard to the general property tax. Your Committee further recommend that whenever improvements or other works undertaken by the Metropolitan Board are of magnitude, and of a permanent character, the charge for them should be defrayed, in the first instance, by loans, to be raised by the Board on the security of its rates; and that the loans should be repaid by equal annual instalments, spread over a number of years proportionate to their amounts, and that the charge for the first instalment of them should be levied within the year in which the expenditure is commenced.

"In making these recommendations, your Committee deem it right to add, in conclusion, that in prosecuting their inquiry into the best means of improving the local government of the metropolis, they will not fail to consider the question of conferring upon the owners of property, who have so great an interest in its permanent welfare, the power of being represented in the Metropolitan Board of Works."

The Corporation of London, on that Report being made, took steps to promote a Bill, which was introduced in the present Session, to empower themselves to levy a rate of 6 *d.* in the pound on the owners of property in the City, for the purpose of effecting improvements within its limits. This Bill being referred to your Committee, they agreed to a resolution, "That, pending the general inquiry referred to this Committee, it is inexpedient to empower the Corporation of London or any local authority within the metropolitan districts, except the Metropolitan Board of Works, to levy a rate upon the owners of property for the purpose of making improvements in the metropolis." Your Committee have now arrived at the conclusion that such an important power should not be exercised by the Corporation of London or any local authority, except for the purpose of raising one-half the cost of such permanent improvements of a local character as may be sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works, when the interests of the owners of property shall be represented on that Board.

A Bill having been also introduced in the present Session to carry into effect the recommendation of the Committee of last Session to levy a rate on the owners and occupiers of property for the purpose of effecting permanent improvements, your Committee have considered the best means of securing a sufficient representation of the owners of property in the Metropolitan Board of Works; and the conclusions at which they have arrived are embraced in the subjoined Resolutions.

But as any comprehensive plan of local taxation for the metropolis would be unjust if it were not based upon a uniform assessment of the property to be rated, your Committee have also considered the best means of arriving at such an assessment. The Metropolitan Board, in the execution of the Metropolitan Building Acts, possesses an adequate machinery for supervising the valuation of property for the purposes of assessment, and the changes in it which are constantly going on in the metropolis; your Committee have thereupon come to the conclusion, that the Metropolitan Board, as re-constituted, should be charged with the duty of adjusting the assessment of each district to a uniform standard throughout the metropolis.

The evidence taken by your Committee shows, that in some large parishes where the local administration has been most completely organised, there is only a vestry for the administration, both of the Local Government Acts and the Relief of the Poor; your Committee are of opinion that it deserves serious consideration whether this system might not be extended to all the districts of the metropolis. It would seem to be desirable, if practicable, in order to avoid the multiplicity of local authorities in each district, and to promote efficiency of administration combined with economy, that the Board of Guardians should be merged in the Common Council recommended in the subjoined Resolutions, so that the functions of local government which are now brought into close relations with the relief of the poor should be exercised by one body, subject to such superior control by the municipal council, also recommended in the resolutions, as may be necessary for the general welfare of the metropolis. The collection of rates would be economised and facilitated, though the rates might be made separately, or by different authorities, if they were all collected by one officer at the same time, either half-yearly or quarterly, as may be found desirable to ensure a due collection; but as an important measure affecting the administration of the Poor Law has been passed in the present Session, since much of the evidence on the subject was taken by your Committee, and is now in course of being carried into execution, your Committee have not deemed it expedient at present to come to any final resolution on these subjects.

One circumstance, however, mentioned in the Report of 1866, deserves further consideration. In consequence of the great increase in the rateable value of property in the metropolis, owing to the increase in the value of property and to the improvements in the mode of assessment, which will be further enhanced by the more complete system we have suggested, and the large demands on the occupiers to supply defects arising from a want of foresight in past times, the present pressure on them of local taxation is very considerable; the annual produce of the Main Drainage Rate has increased from 141,000 *l.* to upwards of 180,000 *l.* Your Committee, therefore, think it would be desirable that the annual rate should be reduced, and the period for which it is to be levied should be extended; but as this cannot be done without the

the permission of the Crown, your Committee refrain from making any more specific recommendation on the subject.

From the earliest period, the parochial and other divisions of the metropolis have been repeatedly changed to meet the varying circumstances of the times; and your Committee see no reason why such alterations should not now be made in local arrangements as may be found necessary to meet the very great alterations which have recently taken place in the condition of the metropolis.

Within the last thirty-five years its population has more than doubled; districts which a few years ago were meadows and gardens, have become covered with dwelling-houses; neighbourhoods where persons of property resided, have been abandoned to the working classes and the poorer people; while streets which were occupied by the working classes or the poor, have been destroyed for the construction of new streets of another class, and for railways and other purposes, regarded as permanent improvements of the metropolis. The resident population has diminished in some districts, and largely increased in others, and their relations to one another have been greatly altered. Your Committee are, therefore, of opinion that a careful examination should be made into the existing divisions of the metropolis, for the purpose of local government, and that they should be re-adjusted to the wants of the present time.

One of the chief difficulties, however, in dealing with any question affecting the local government of the metropolis, arises from the accidental circumstance of the metropolis being situate where several counties meet, and being in consequence composed of parishes which are but fragments of those counties; the difficulty is further enhanced by the fact that the City of London, in the midst of Middlesex, is a county of itself, though the adjoining City of Westminster is still part of the County of Middlesex. Yet the area of the metropolis is by no means large as compared with that of an ordinary county, not being more than 122 square miles, whilst that of the County of Kent, for example, is 1,557 square miles.

Had the metropolis been situate within an entire county, there can be little doubt that it would long since have enjoyed the same advantages as other large cities or boroughs, and would have had within its own limits a complete organization for all the purposes of local government and administration. Your Committee, therefore, consider that the first step towards an improved and efficient system of local government is to correct this anomaly, and to constitute the metropolis a county of itself, according to the principles recognised in the government of this country from the earliest times, and they have therefore agreed to the subjoined Resolutions on the subject.

Your Committee also deem it right to call attention to the important matters bearing on the local government of the metropolis, which are to be found in the Report of 1861; but as the necessity for establishing a strong and efficient local administration in London for the purpose of assuring the health, comfort, and convenience of the inhabitants is now generally acknowledged, your Committee deem it unnecessary to enter at length into the matters which have induced them to arrive at all the conclusions set forth in the following Resolutions, by which they believe this object will be attained in a manner consistent with the special circumstances of London, and the seat of Her Majesty's Government.

Resolutions.

(1). That there should be a separate Commission of the Peace for the whole Metropolis, as defined by the Metropolis Local Management Act, on which should be placed some of the principal persons connected by property with each district of the Metropolis.

(2). That to ensure an efficient body of Justices, the Commission should be revised and re-issued at stated periods.

(3). That the Justices should hold general sessions for the Metropolis, and should exercise the functions usually discharged by the sessions of cities having a separate quarter sessions, except as hereinafter resolved.

(4). That the Justices of each district should hold district sessions, for the purposes of determining all questions requiring the decision of Justices, and

arising in the district connected with the local government of the Metropolis, which are not of a general character; and, to preserve uniformity, an appeal should lie to the General Sessions.

(5). That the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works should be altered as follows:—

(A.) That the owners of property in the Metropolis should be represented on the Metropolitan Board by the Justices of the Metropolis, selecting from amongst the Justices connected with the districts a proportion of the members of the Metropolitan Board.

(B). That in the event of the property occupied by the Crown being assessed for the rates levied by the Metropolitan Board for permanent improvements, which to your Committee seems just and reasonable, the Crown should be at liberty to appoint two members to the Metropolitan Board.

(C). That one or more members of the Metropolitan Board should be elected, as at present, by the governing body of each district as hereinafter defined.

(D). That there should be elected directly by the ratepayers in each district of the Metropolis a proportion of the members of the Metropolitan Board.

(6). That the relative importance of each district, and the number of members connected with it on the Metropolitan Board, should be determined with regard to the number and rateable value of the houses and other property, and the population and area of each district.

(7). That the powers and duties of the Metropolitan Board having been much enlarged since its first establishment, its name should be made more conformable to its present and future condition, and it should be called "The Municipal Council of London."

(8). That the President of this Council should be periodically nominated by the Board, and be approved of by the Crown.

(9). That the Municipal Council should discharge all its executive duties by means of Committees composed of a limited number of its members, subject to the review of the Council.

(10). That the Municipal Council should exercise the powers now possessed by the Metropolitan Board, and should also be entrusted with a supervision over the supply of water and gas to the Metropolis, with the protection of the public interests in regard to Railways and other undertakings affecting the inhabitants at large, and with such other functions as Parliament may from time to time appoint to be exercised by the chief authority for the general management of the affairs of the Metropolis.

(11). That it is desirable that the Crown should consider the expediency of allowing the amount of the yearly main drainage rate to be reduced, on the period for which it is to be levied being extended as long as may be requisite to discharge the main drainage debt and interest.

(12). That the power conferred on local authorities in the Metropolis to improve existing thoroughfares, and to take property compulsorily for that purpose, under the 57th Geo. 3, ch. 29, should be expressly extended to the Municipal Council, and such defects in the Act as interfere with the due exercise of that power should be amended.

(13). That the Municipal Council should be invested with such powers as may be necessary to make a uniform assessment throughout the Metropolis.

(14). That there should be an appeal from such assessment to the general sessions of the Justices for the Metropolis.

(15). That the existing divisions of the Metropolis for the purpose of local government under the Metropolis Local Management Act are in some cases too small and inconvenient, and should be re-adjusted.

16. That

(16). That each district should be divided into convenient wards, and the members of each district governing authority should be elected directly by the ratepayers in each ward.

(17). That it is desirable that Her Majesty's Government should ascertain in what manner the Metropolis can be best divided into districts and wards, in accordance with these Resolutions.

(18). That the governing authority of each district should be called "The Common Council" of the district.

(19). That the Common Council should elect annually a chairman and deputy chairman.

(20). That in order to prevent repeated elections, all persons to be elected both for the Municipal Council and the Common Council, as well as persons elected to other offices, should be nominated and elected at the same time and in the same manner.

(21). That the nomination should be made at a meeting of the inhabitants, either by ratepayers present, or by writing, and that the election should afterwards take place in the manner prescribed by the General Order of the Poor Law Board of the 14th January 1867.

(22). That all the functions now exercised within the district by the Vestry or Local Board should be vested in the Common Council.

(23). That it would be inexpedient to authorise any district authority to levy rates on the owners of property, unless the Metropolitan Board, after it has been reconstituted by the owners of property being represented in it, shall determine such rates to be just, for the purpose of paying half the cost of effecting some defined permanent improvement which ought to be made, wholly or partly, at the expense of the district.

(24). That the proceedings of the Common Council should be public, and the accounts of each year should be printed and delivered to each ratepayer, with a report of the year's administration.

(25). That it is expedient that there should be one police force for the Metropolis, but the Committee are of opinion that it should be a subject of further consideration under what control the police of the Metropolis should be placed.

(26). That should the charge of the police of the Metropolis and of the rural districts within the present limits of the Metropolitan Police, be deemed too extensive, it is expedient that it should be diminished by transferring the Metropolitan Police of the remoter districts to the police of those counties in which they are situate, where an efficient county police is established.

(27). That as the coal and wine dues are collected for the benefit of the Metropolis, the accounts of them should be audited by the auditor appointed to audit the accounts of the Metropolitan Board.

(28). That the Municipal Council should take measures, consistently with the rights of property, to free the thoroughfares and bridges within the Metropolis from tolls, gates, and bars.

(29). That the provisions of the Building Act should be amended so as to prevent the erection of dwellings injurious to health.

(30). That all local Acts, so far as may be necessary to carry out the principles embodied in these Resolutions, should be repealed.

(31). That it is desirable Her Majesty's Government should submit to Parliament a Bill to carry the foregoing resolutions into effect.

6 May 1867.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Thursday, 28th February 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Lord John Manners.	Mr. Turner.
Mr. Locke.	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.

Mr. *Ayrton* was called to the Chair.

The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 5th March 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Bentinck.
Lord John Manners.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Mill.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	

LONDON CITY IMPROVEMENT RATES BILL.

Preamble read the first time.

Counsel:—Mr. *Davison* and Mr. *Sargood.*
Agents:—Messrs. *Dyson* & Co.

PETITIONS against the Bill, read:

Metropolitan Board of Works:—

Counsel:—Mr. *Burke*, and Mr. *Wilkinson.*
Agent:—Mr. *Parkes.*

City of London Gas-Light and Coke Company:—

Counsel:—None.
Agents:—Messrs. *Paine* and *Layton.*

No Parties appeared in support of the following Petitions, viz.:—

East London Railway Company.
North London Railway Company.
Metropolitan Railway Company.
South Eastern Railway Company.
London and North Western Railway Company.

Mr. *Davison* applied for a postponement of the Bill until after the completion of the inquiry originally referred to the Committee.

The Committee decided to proceed with the Bill.

Mr. *Davison* was heard to open the case for the Promoters, and called Evidence.

Mr. *T. A. Fry*, and Mr. *W. Heywood*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to To-morrow, at Two o'clock.

Wednesday, 6th March 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Kekewich.	Sir William Gallwey.
Lord John Manners.	Mr. Tite.

LONDON CITY IMPROVEMENT RATES BILL.

Mr. *Scott*, Chamberlain of the City of London, and Mr. *John Thomas Bedford*, were severally examined.

Mr. *Davison* stated that he had closed his case.

Room cleared,—The Committee deliberated.

Motion made, and Question put, " That pending the general inquiry referred to this Committee, it is inexpedient to empower the Corporation of London or any local authority within the Metropolitan district, except the Metropolitan Board of Works, to levy a rate upon the owners of property for the purpose of making improvements in the metropolis."—(Mr. *Cavendish Bentinck.*)—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 4.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Turner.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Locke.
Lord John Manners.	Mr. Hill.
Mr. Kekewich.	
Sir William Gallwey.	

Motion made, and Question put, " That the Preamble of the Bill is proved."—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*)—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 4.	Noes, 6.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Locke.	Mr. Hugessen.
Mr. Mill.	Lord John Manners.
	Mr. Kekewich.
	Sir William Galwey.

Parties called in, and informed of the decision of the Committee.

Ordered, to report, together with the above Resolution.

Tuesday, 26th March 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Turner.	

The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 28*th March* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Turner.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Mill.
Lord John Manners.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Tite.	Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Locke.

Mr. *Corrie* and Mr. *Scott* were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 1*st April* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

MR. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Lord John Manners.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.	Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Sandford.

Mr, *Goodman*, Mr. *Medwin*, Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *Rendle* were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 4*th April* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Kekewich.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Mill.	Mr Sandford.
Mr. Tite.	

Mr. *William Rendle* was further examined.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Motion made, and Question put, That the Corporation of *London* be permitted to give evidence as to the manner in which they have carried on and conducted the City of *London* School—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence*):—The Committee divided:

Aye, 1.	Noes, 6.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Bazley.
	Mr. Tite.
	Mr. Bentinck.
	Mr. Mill.
	Mr. Kekewich.
	Lord John Manners.

Sir *John Thwaites* was examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 8th April 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Turner.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Bentinck.	Lord John Manners.

Dr. *Letheby* and Mr. *Heywood* were severally examined.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

Mr. *Bontems*, examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 11th April 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Mill.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Kekewich.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Tite.	

Mr. *Waterlow*, Mr. *Corrie*, Mr. *Bedford*, Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *Jones* were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Tuesday, 30th April, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 30th April 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Lord John Manners.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Mill.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Tite.	

Sir *Richard Mayne* was examined.

1. Draft Report, proposed by the *Chairman*, read the first time as follows:

"1. THE nature of the local government of the metropolis having been explained in the Third Report of the Select Committee appointed in 1861 to inquire into it, your Committee need now only observe, that since that period the powers and duties of the local authorities in the metropolis have been considerably enlarged by recent Acts of Parliament. The present functions of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the manner in which they are discharged, are fully described in the report of that Board for the year 1866, which has already been laid before Parliament.

"2. The Committee appointed in 1866 to inquire into the Local Government of the Metropolis, presented to the House in the last Session a Report on the Local Taxation of the Metropolis, which they concluded with the following recommendation:

"'It remains to be considered whether the expenditure of the Metropolitan Board is of such a nature as that it would be just and reasonable to depart from the ordinary practice of imposing local burthens on the occupants of property for the year in which the rate is made. It will be observed from the foregoing account of the proceedings of the Metropolitan Board that nearly the whole of its expenditure and obligations have been incurred for the purpose of supplying wants arising from the defects of former administration of the affairs of the metropolis, and of effecting permanent improvements, which have tended to increase the value of property in the metropolis; that the works undertaken are of such magnitude that the charges for them have been extended by Parliament over many years; and that their effect will be felt long after all the charges have been defrayed; that the whole of this expenditure is of a novel character resulting from special legislation, imposing new and unforeseen burdens. In analogous cases, one moiety of the charge has been imposed upon the occupiers, and the other on the owners of property. Your Committee therefore recommend that in any arrangement of the financial resources of the Metropolitan Board, a portion of the charge for permanent improvements and works should be borne by the owners of property within the metropolis, the rate being, in the first instance, paid by the occupier, and subsequently deducted from his rent, as is now provided in regard to the general property tax. Your Committee further recommend that whenever improvements or other works undertaken by the Metropolitan Board are of magnitude, and of a permanent character, the charge for them should be defrayed, in the first instance, by loans, to be raised by the Board on the security of its rates; and that the loans should be repaid by equal annual instalments, spread over a number of years proportionate to their amounts, and that the charge for the first instalment of them should be levied within the year in which the expenditure is commenced.

"'In making these recommendations, your Committee deem it right to add, in conclusion, that in prosecuting their inquiry into the best means of improving the local government of the metropolis, they will not fail to consider the question of conferring upon the owners of property, who have so great an interest in its permanent welfare, the power of being represented in the Metropolitan Board of Works.'

"3. The Corporation of London, on that Report being made, took steps to promote a Bill, which was introduced in the present Session, to empower themselves to levy a rate of 6*d.* in the pound on the owners of property in the City, for the purpose of effecting improvements within its limits. This Bill being referred to your Committee, they agreed to a resolution, 'That, pending the general inquiry referred to this Committee, it is inexpedient to empower the Corporation of London or any local authority within the metropolitan districts, except the Metropolitan Board of Works, to levy a rate upon the owners of property for the purpose of making improvements in the metropolis." Your Committee have now arrived at the conclusion that such an important power should not be exercised by the Corporation of London or any other district authority, except for the purpose of raising one-half the cost of such permanent improvements of a local character as may be sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works, when the interests of the owners of property shall be represented on that Board.

"4. A Bill having been also introduced in the present Session to carry into effect the recommendation of the Committee of last Session to levy a rate on the owners and occupiers of property for the purpose of effecting permanent improvements, your Committee have considered the best means of securing a sufficient representation of the owners of property in the Metropolitan Board of Works; and the conclusion at which they have arrived is embraced in the subjoined Resolutions.

"5. But as any comprehensive plan of local taxation for the metropolis would be unjust if it were not based upon a uniform assessment of the property to be rated, your Committee have also considered the best means of arriving at such an assessment. The Metropolitan Board, in the execution of the Metropolitan Building Acts, possesses an adequate machinery for supervising the valuation of property for the purposes of assessment, and the changes in it which are constantly going on in the metropolis, your Committee have thereupon come to the conclusion, that the Metropolitan Board should be charged with the duty of adjusting the assessment of each district to a uniform standard throughout the metropolis.

"6. One circumstance, however, mentioned in the Report of 1866, deserves further consideration. In consequence of the great increase in the rateable value of property in the metropolis, owing to improvements in the mode of assessment, which will be further enhanced by the more complete system we have suggested, and the large demands on the occupiers to supply defects arising from a want of foresight in past times, the present pressure on them of local taxation is very considerable; the annual produce of the Main Drainage Rate has increased from 141,000 *l.* to upwards of 180,000 *l.* Your Committee, therefore, think it would be desirable that the annual rate should be reduced, and the period for which it is to be levied should be extended; but as this cannot be done without the permission of the Crown, your Committee refrain from making any more specific recommendation on the subject.

"7. From the earliest period, the parochial and other divisions of the metropolis have been repeatedly changed to meet the varying circumstances of the times; and your Committee see no reason why such alterations should not now be made in local arrangements

ments as may be found necessary to meet the very great alterations which have recently taken place in the condition of the metropolis.

"8. Within the last thirty-five years its population has more than doubled; districts which a few years ago were meadows and gardens, have become covered with dwelling-houses; neighbourhoods where persons of property resided, have been altogether abandoned to the working classes and the poorer people; while streets which were occupied by the working classes or the poor, have been destroyed for the construction of new streets of another class, and for railways and other purposes, regarded as permanent improvements of the metropolis. The resident population has diminished in some districts, and largely increased in others, and their relations to one another have been greatly altered. Your Committee are, therefore, of opinion that a careful examination should be made into the existing divisions of the metropolis, for the purpose of local government, and that they should be re-adjusted to the wants of the present time.

"9. One of the chief difficulties, however, in dealing with any question affecting the local government of the metropolis, arises from the accidental circumstance of the metropolis being situate where several counties meet, and being in consequence composed of parishes which are but fragments of those counties; the difficulty is further enhanced by the fact that the City of London, in the midst of Middlesex, is a county of itself, though the adjoining City of Westminster is still part of the County of Middlesex. Yet the area of the metropolis is by no means large, not being more than 122 square miles, whilst that of the County of Kent is 1,557 square miles.

"10. Had the metropolis been situate within an entire county, there can be little doubt that it would long since have enjoyed the same advantages as other large cities or boroughs, and would have had within its own limits a complete organization for all the purposes of local government and administration. Your Committee therefore consider that the first step towards an improved and efficient system of local government is to correct this anomaly, and to constitute the metropolis a county of itself, according to the principles recognised in the government of this country from the earliest times, and they have therefore agreed to the subjoined Resolutions on the subject.

"11. Your Committee have also deemed it right to call attention to some important matters bearing on the local government of the metropolis, which were adverted to in the Report of 1861, and have been brought under their notice; but as the necessity for establishing a strong and efficient local administration in London for the purpose of assuring the health, comfort, and convenience of its inhabitants is now generally acknowledged, your Committee deem it unnecessary to enter at length into the matters which have induced them to arrive at all the conclusions set forth in the following Resolutions, by which they believe this object will be attained in a manner consistent with the special circumstances of London, and of the seat of Her Majesty's Government.

"RESOLUTIONS.

"(1). That there should be a separate Commission of the Peace for the whole metropolis, as defined by the Metropolis Local Management Act, on which should be placed some of the principal persons connected by property with each district of the metropolis.

"(2). That to ensure an efficient body of justices, the commission should be revised and re-issued once in every year.

"(3). That the justices should hold general sessions, for the purpose of determining questions of a general character affecting the whole metropolis, usually disposed of by justices in general sessions.

"(4). That the justices of each district should hold district sessions, for the purposes of determining all questions requiring the decision of justices, and arising in the district connected with the local government of the metropolis, which are not of a general character; and, to preserve unformity, an appeal should be to the general sessions.

"(5). That the Metropolitan Board of Works should be placed upon an enlarged basis.

"(6). That the owners of property in the metropolis should be represented on the Metropolitan Board by the justices of the metropolis, selecting from amongst the justices connected with each district, one or more members of the Metropolitan Board, according to the relative importance of the district.

"(7). That in the event of the property occupied by the Crown being assessed for the rates levied by the Metropolitan Board, which to your Committee seems just and reasonable, the Crown should be at liberty to appoint two members to the Metropolitan Board.

"(8). That one or more members of the Metropolitan Board should be elected, as at present, by the governing body of each district.

"(9). That there should be elected directly, by the ratepayers in each district of the metropolis, members of the Metropolitan Board, equal in number to the other members of the Board for that district.

"(10). That the relative importance of each district, and the number of members connected with it on the Metropolitan Board, should be determined from the number and rateable value of the houses and other property, and the area of each district.

"(11). That the powers and duties of the Metropolitan Board having been much enlarged since its first establishment, its name should be made more conformable to its present and future condition, and it should be called 'The Municipal Council of London.'

"(12). That a president and vice-president of this Council should be annually nominated by the Board, and be approved of by the Crown.

"(13). That there should be a permanent stipendiary chairman of committees which office should, in the first instance, be held by the present chairman of the Board, on the conditions on which he now holds the office of chairman of the Board.

"(14). That the Municipal Council should discharge all its executive duties by means of committees composed of a limited number of its members.

"(15). That the Municipal Council should exercise the powers now possessed by the Metropolitan Board, and should also be entrusted with a supervision over the supply of water and gas to the metropolis, with the protection of the public interests in regard to railways and other large undertakings affecting the inhabitants at large, and with such other functions as Parliament may from time to time appoint to be exercised by the chief authority for the general management of the affairs of the metropolis.

"(16). That the Crown should consider the expediency of allowing the amount of the yearly main drainage rate to be reduced, or the period for which it is to be levied being extended as long as may be requisite to discharge the main drainage debt and interest.

"(17). That the power conferred on local authorities in the metropolis to improve existing thoroughfares, and to take property compulsory for that purpose, under the 57th Geo. 3, ch. 29, should be expressly extended to the Municipal Council, and such defects in the Act as interfere with the due exercise of that power should be amended.

"(18). That the Municipal Council should be invested with such powers as may be necessary to make a uniform assessment throughout the metropolis.

"(19). That there should be an appeal from such assessment to the general sessions of the justices for the metropolis.

"(20). That the existing divisions of the metropolis for the purpose of local government under the Metropolis Local Management Act, are in some cases too small and inconvenient, and should be re-adjusted, so that each district should be of the extent of the largest districts constituted under that Act, as far as circumstances will admit.

"(21). That each district should be divided into convenient wards, and the members of each district governing authority, should be elected directly by the ratepayers in each ward.

"(22). That to facilitate such an arrangement of districts and wards, it is desirable that the division of the larger parishes into separate ecclesiastical districts should be more effectually carried out, by the complete formation of new parishes.

"(23). That it is desirable that Her Majesty's Government should immediately ascertain in what manner the metropolis can be best divided into districts and wards or parishes, in accordance with these resolutions.

"(24). That the governing authority of each district should be called The Common Council of the district.

"(25). That the Common Council should elect annually a chairman and deputy chairman.

"(26.) That each Common Council should be composed of the same number of members as now form the vestries of the largest parishes, but the executive duties of each Council should be discharged by a committee of a limited number of its members.

"(27). That in order to prevent repeated elections, all persons to be elected both for the Municipal Council and the Common Council, as well as other persons elected to offices, should be nominated and elected at the same time and in the same manner.

"(28). That the nomination should be made at a meeting of the inhabitants, either by ratepayers present, or by writing, and that the election should afterwards take place in the manner prescribed by the General Order of the Poor Law Board of the 14th January 1867.

"(29). That all the functions now exercised within the district by the vestry or local Board should be vested in the Common Council.

"(30). That all local Acts, so far as they relate to elections, the assessment of rates, and to the future local government of the districts, should be repealed.

"(31). That

"(31). That, as the functions of the local authorities for the preservation of health have now been brought into very close relation with the administration of the relief of the poor, the Common Council should also be entrusted with the administration of the relief of the poor.

"(32). That it would be inexpedient to authorise any district authority to levy rates on the owners of property, unless the Metropolitan Board, after it has been reconstituted by the owners of property being represented in it, shall determine such rates to be just, for the purpose of paying half the cost of effecting some defined permanent improvement which may be necessary, and which ought to be made, wholly or partly, at the expense of the district.

"(33). That to avoid a multiplicity of authorities in each district, as well as to economise expenditure with efficiency of administration, the Board of Guardians should be amalgamated with the Common Council, by which all the functions necessary for the purpose of local administration in the district should be exercised, subject to such superior power and control of the Municipal Council as may be necessary for the general welfare of the metropolis.

"(34). That the proceedings of the Common Council should be public, and the accounts of each year should be printed and delivered to each ratepayer, with a report of the year's administration.

"(35). That to economise and facilitate the collection of rates, whilst it is necessary to make separate rates, it is expedient that they should all be collected by one officer at the same time, either half-yearly or quarterly, as may be found desirable to ensure a due collection.

"(36). That, as it appears that the population of the metropolis and its suburbs frequenting and passing through the City of London, greatly exceeds the resident population of the City, it is expedient that there should be one police force for the metropolis, in accordance with the Report of the Select Committee of 1838, and of the Royal Commission of 1854, to which attention is called in the Third Report of the Select Committee of 1861.

"(37). That should the charge of the police of the metropolis and of the rural districts within the present limits of the Metropolitan Police, be deemed too extensive, it is expedient that it should be diminished by transferring the Metropolitan Police of the remoter districts to the police of the counties in which they are situate, where an efficient county police has been established.

"(38). That the following views of the Select Committee of the House on Metropolis Local Taxation, contained in their Third Report in 1861, deserve immediate attention.

> "(*a.*) With regard to the duty on hackney carriages, 'Your Committee are of opinion that, in justice to the inhabitants, whatever amount may in fact be paid in excess of the duty as it would be levied in other parts of the kingdom, ought to be remitted, or applied in aid of the rates levied for local purposes.'
>
> "(*b.*) With reference to an annual charge of 11,500 *l.* a year on the estates held by the Corporation of the City of London, 'Your Committee are of opinion that the permanent annuity payable by the City of London in discharge of its own debt having been entirely redeemed by taxes levied on the inhabitants of the whole metropolis, the charge which was imposed by Parliament on the City in perpetuity ought to be continued, and applied for the benefit of those inhabitants.'
>
> "(*c.*) With regard to the charge for metage on corn and grain imported into the metropolis, as collected by the Corporation of London, 'Your Committee have not pursued the examination into the nature and operation of this duty at length, as they find that a Select Committee, appointed in the year 1858, after hearing counsel for the Corporation, reported, without dissent, in favour of a Bill for the abolition of the duty, subject to provisions for making compensation to the cornmeters then employed. This Bill, which related also to a reform of the Corporation, was dropped by the Government, by whom it was introduced; but your Committee see no reason to doubt the correctness of the conclusion arrived at by that Committee. If, however, the duty on corn is to be continued, your Committee think that, being levied upon all the inhabitants, it should be applied, like the duty on wine, for their general benefit.'

"(39). That as the coal and wine dues are collected for the benefit of the metropolis, the accounts of them should be audited by the auditor appointed to audit the accounts of the Metropolitan Board.

"(40). That the Municipal Council should take immediate measures to free the thoroughfares within the metropolis from all tolls, gates, and bars.

"(41). That the provisions of the Building Act should be amended, so as to prevent the erection of dwellings injurious to health.

"(42). That it is desirable Her Majesty's Government should submit to Parliament a Bill to carry the foregoing resolutions into effect.

2. Draft Resolutions, to be proposed by Mr. *Mill*, read as follows:

"1. That the metropolis (exclusively of the City of London) should be divided into municipal boroughs corresponding, unless where special reasons may exist to the contrary, with the extent and boundaries of the Parliamentary boroughs, existing or to be created.

"2. That each of these municipal boroughs should be a corporation, and should possess a municipal government constituted under the powers of the Municipal Reform Act, 1835.

"3. That each metropolitan borough should have a commission of the peace, and a salaried police magistrate, and should be a police court division.

"4. That the council of each such borough should possess, in addition to the powers of the councils of these municipal boroughs, the powers also of vestries and district boards under the Metropolis Local Management Acts.

"5. That when such municipal boroughs shall have been constituted, it will be expedient to provide means of united action between them and the City of London, for such purposes as concern the whole metropolis."

Motion made, and Question, That the Draft Report proposed by the Chairman be now read a second time, paragraph by paragraph—(Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen*)—put, and *agreed to.*

The first eleven paragraphs were postponed, and the Committee proceeded to consider the Resolutions embodied in the Draft Report.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(1.) That there should be a separate Commission of the Peace for the whole metropolis, as defined by the Metropolis Local Management Act, on which should be placed some of the principal persons connected by property with each district of the metropolis"—(The *Chairman*).—Amendment proposed to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "the limits of the City of London should be extended to the metropolis, as defined by the Metropolis Local Management Act, and the metropolis should be divided into wards for the election of Aldermen and Common Councilmen"—(Mr. *Locke*)—instead thereof.—Question put, That the word "there" stand part of the Question:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	
Mr. Mill.	

Question proposed, That the words "should be a separate Commission of the Peace for the whole metropolis, as defined by the Metropolis Local Management Act, on which should be placed some of the principal persons connected by property with each district of the Metropolis," stand part of the Question:—Amendment proposed, after the word "Act," to insert the words "except the City of London"—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence*).—Question put, That those words be there inserted:—The Committee divided.

Aye, 1.	Noes, 8.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Sandford.
	Mr. Bazley.
	Mr. Bentinck.
	Mr. Tite.
	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen
	Lord John Manners.
	Mr. Mill.
	Mr. Locke.

Main Question put, and agreed to.—*Resolved*, That there should be a separate Commission of the Peace for the whole metropolis as defined by the Metropolis Local Management Act, on which should be placed some of the principal persons connected by property with each district of the metropolis.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(2). That to ensure an efficient body of justices, the Commission should be revised and re-issued once in every year"—(The *Chairman*).—Amendment proposed, to leave out the words "once in every year," in order to add the words "at stated periods"—(The *Chairman*)—instead thereof:—Question, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question—put, and *negatived*:—Words added:—Main Question, as amended, put, and *agreed to.*—*Resolved*, That to ensure an efficient body of Justices the Commission should be revised and re-issued at stated periods.

Motion

Motion made, and Question, "(3). That the justices should hold general sessions, for the metropolis, and should exercise the functions usually discharged by the sessions of cities having a separate quarter sessions, except as hereinafter resolved"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(4). That the justices of each district should hold district sessions for the purposes of determining all questions requiring the decision of justices, and arising in the district connected with the local government of the metropolis, which are not of a general character; and, to preserve uniformity, an appeal should be to the General Sessions"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(5). That the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works should be altered"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(A.) That the owners of property in the metropolis should be represented on the Metropolitan Board by the justices of the metropolis, selecting from amongst the justices connected with each district, one or more members of the Metropolitan Board, according to the relative importance of the district"—(The *Chairman.*)—Amendment proposed, to leave out the words "by the justices"—(Mr. *Mill.*)—Question put, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 4.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Locke.
Lord J. Manners.	

Amendments made.—Main Question, as amended, put:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	

Resolved, That the owners of property in the metropolis should be represented on the Metropolitan Board by the justices of the metropolis selecting from amongst the justices connected with the districts a proportion of the members of the Metropolitan Board.

Motion made, and Question, "(B.) That in the event of the property occupied by the Crown being assessed for the rates levied by the Metropolitan Board for permanent improvements, which to your Committee seems just and reasonable, the Crown should be at liberty to appoint two members to the Metropolitan Board"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(C.) That one or more members of the Metropolitan Board should be elected, as at present, by the governing body of each district, as hereinafer defined—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That there should be elected directly, by the ratepayers in each district of the metropolis, a proportion of the members of the Metropolitan Board, other members of the Board for that district"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 2nd May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Mill.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Beecroft.
Lord John Manners.	

Motion made, and Question, "(10). That the relative importance of each district, and the number of members connected with it on the Metropolitan Board, should be determined with regard to the number and rateable value of the houses and other property, and the population and area of each district"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, " (11). That the powers and duties of the Metropolitan Board having been much enlarged since its first establishment, its name should be made more conformable to its present and future condition, and it should be called ' The Municipal Council of London ' "—(The *Chairman*).

Whereupon Motion made, and Question put, That the further consideration of this Question be postponed—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence*):—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 3.	Noes, 6.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
	Lord John Manners.
	Mr. Mill.
	Mr. Tite.

Original Question put, " (11). That the powers and duties of the Metropolitan Board having been much enlarged since its first establishment, its name should be made more conformable to its present and future condition, and it should be called ' The Municipal Council of London.' "—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 8.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Sandford.	
Mr. Bazley.	
Mr. Turner.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Tite.	

Motion made, and Question proposed, " (12). That the President of this Council should be annually nominated by the Board, and be approved of by the Crown."—Amendment proposed, after the word " be," to insert the words " a Minister of the Crown with a seat in the House of Commons"—(Mr. *Sandford*).—Question put, That those words be there inserted:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 2.	Noes, 7.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Turner.
	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
	Lord J. Manners.
	Mr. Mill.
	Mr. Tite.

Another Amendment proposed, to leave out the word " annually," in order to insert the word " periodically,"—(Lord *J. Manners.*)—instead thereof.— Question put, That the word " annually" stand part of the Question:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 4.	Noes, 5.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Turner.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Mill.	Lord John Manners.
	Mr. Tite.

Question, That the word " periodically " be there inserted—put, and *agreed to.*

Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, " and that the president should be elected from amongst the members elected by the governing bodies of each district, and the Members elected by the ratepayers"—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence*).—Question put, That those words be there added:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 3.	Noes, 6.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Mill.	Mr. Turner.
	M. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
	Lord John Manners.
	Mr. Tite.

Main Question, as amended, put, and *agreed to.*—*Resolved,* That the President of this Council should be periodically nominated by the Board, and be approved of by the Crown.

Motion

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(13). That there should be a permanent stipendiary Chairman of Committees, which office should, in the first instance, be held by the present Chairman of the Board, on the conditions on which he now holds the office of Chairman of the Board"—(The *Chairman*)—Motion by leave, *withdrawn.*

Motion made, and Question, "(14). That the Municipal Council should discharge all its executive duties by means of Committees, composed of a limited number of its members, subject to the review of the Council"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(15). That the Municipal Council should exercise the powers now possessed by the Metropolitan Board, and should also be entrusted with a supervision over the supply of water and gas to the metropolis, with the protection of the public interests in regard to railways and other undertakings affecting the inhabitants at large, and with such other functions as Parliament may from time to time appoint to be exercised by the chief authority for the general management of the affairs of the metropolis"—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the words "at large" to the end of the Question—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*).—Question put, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 2.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Tite.	

Main Question put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(16). That it is desirable that the Crown should consider the expediency of allowing the amount of the yearly main drainage rate to be reduced, on the period for which it is to be levied being extended as long as may be requisite to discharge the main drainage debt and interest"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(17). That the power conferred on local authorities in the metropolis to improve existing thoroughfares, and to take property compulsorily for that purpose, under the 57th Geo. 3, c. 29, should be expressly extended to the Municipal Council, and such defects in the Act as interfere with the due exercise of that power should be amended"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(18). That the Municipal Council should be invested with such powers as may be necessary to make a uniform assessment throughout the metropolis"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(19). That there should be an appeal from such assessment, to the general sessions of the justices for the metropolis"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(20). That the existing divisions of the metropolis for the purpose of local government under the Metropolis Local Management Act, are in some cases too small and inconvenient, and should be re-adjusted, so that each district should be of the extent of the largest districts constituted under that Act, as far as circumstances will admit"—(The *Chairman*).—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the words "That the" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "metropolis (exclusively of the City of London) should be divided into municipal boroughs corresponding, unless where special reasons may exist to the contrary, with the extent and boundaries of the Parliamentary boroughs existing or to be created"—(Mr. *Mill*)—instead thereof.—Question put, That the words "existing divisions of the metropolis," stand part of the Question:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 2.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Bazley.	
Mr. Turner.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	

Another Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "some," in order to insert the word "most"—(Mr. *Mill*)—instead thereof. Question put, That the word "some" stand part of the Question:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 2.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Bazley.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Turner.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	
Mr. Tite.	

Another Amendment proposed, after the word "re-adjusted," to insert the words, "so that each district shall be of an extent not less than the largest district constituted under that Act, nor greater than the Metropolitan Parliamentary Boroughs"—(Mr. *Mill*).—Question put, That those words be there inserted:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 2.	Noes, 7.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Mill.	Mr. Bazley.
	Mr. Turner.
	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
	Lord John Manners.
	Mr. Tite.
	Mr. Beecroft.

Another Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "re-adjusted," to the end of the Question.—Question, That the words proposed to be left out, stand part of the Question, put, *and negatived*:—Main Question, as amended—put, and *agreed to.*—*Resolved*, That the existing divisions of the metropolis for the purpose of local government under the Metropolis Local Management Act, are in some cases too small and inconvenient, and should be re-adjusted.

Motion made, and Question, "(21). That each district should be divided into convenient wards, and the members of each district governing authority should be elected directly by the ratepayers in each ward"--(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(23). That it is desirable that Her Majesty's Government should ascertain in what manner the metropolis can be best divided into districts and wards, in accordance with these resolutions"--(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(24). That the governing authority of each district should be called the Common Council of the district"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(25). That the Common Council should elect annually a chairman and deputy chairman"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(26). That each Common Council should be composed of the same number of members as now form the vestries of the largest parishes, but the executive duties of each Council should be discharged by a Committee of a limited number of its members."—(The *Chairman*)—Motion, by leave, *withdrawn.*

Motion made, and Question, "(27). That in order to prevent repeated elections, all persons to be elected both for the Municipal Council and the Common Council, as well as persons elected to other offices, should be nominated and elected at the same time and in the same manner"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(28). That the nomination should be made at a meeting of the inhabitants, either by ratepayers present, or by writing, and that the election should afterwards take place in the manner prescribed by the General Order of the Poor Law Board of the 14th January 1867"--(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(29). That all the functions now exercised within the district by the Vestry or Local Board should be vested in the Common Council"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "(30). That all local Acts, so far as may be necessary to carry out the principles embodied in these resolutions should be repealed"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(32). That it would be inexpedient to authorise any district authority to levy rates on the owners of property, unless the Metropolitan Board, after it has been reconstituted by the owners of property being represented in it, shall determine such rates to be just, for the purpose of paying half the cost of effecting some defined permanent improvement which may be necessary, and which ought to be made, wholly or partly, at the expense of the district"—(The *Chairman*).—An Amendment made.—Question, as amended, put:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 7.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Sandford.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Tite.	
Mr. Beecroft.	

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 6th May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON, in the Chair.

Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Turner.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Bentinck.
Lord John Manners.	Mr. Locke.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "(36). That it is expedient that there should be one police force for the metropolis"—(The *Chairman*).—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "as the Committee have not inquired into the management and present state of efficiency of the police forces of the metropolis, they do not consider it advisable to make any recommendation upon the subject of the police of the metropolis—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence*).—Question put, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Turner.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Mr. Mill.	

Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question to add the words: "but the Committee are of opinion that it should be a subject of further consideration under what control the police of the metropolis should be placed"—(Mr. *Sandford*).—Question put, That those words be there added:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 4.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Turner.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Mill.	

Main Question, as amended, put.—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Turner.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Tite.	Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Bentinck.	

Resolved, That it is expedient that there should be one police force for the metropolis, but the Committee are of opinion that it should be a subject of further consideration under what control the police of the metropolis should be placed.

Motion made, and Question, "(37). That should the charge of the police of the metropolis, and of the rural districts within the present limits of the Metropolitan Police, be deemed too extensive, it is expedient that it should be diminished by transferring the Metropolitan Police of the remoter districts to the police of the counties in which they are situate, where an efficient county police has been established"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to*.

Motion made, and Question put, "(39). That as the coal and wine dues are collected for the benefit of the metropolis, the accounts of them should be audited by the auditor appointed to audit the accounts of the Metropolitan Board"—(The *Chairman*).—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 8.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Turner.	
Mr. Tite.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Lord John Manners.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Kekewich.	
Mr. Bentinck.	

Motion made, and Question, "(40). That the Municipal Council should take measures to free the thoroughfares and bridges within the metropolis from tolls, gates, and bars."—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Postponed paragraphs of Draft Report considered.

Paragraph 1, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 2, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 3, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 4, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 5:—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the words "Metropolitan Board," in line 4, to the end of the paragraph—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence*).—Question put, That the words "in the execution of the Metropolitan Buildings Acts" stand part of the paragraph:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Tite.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Bentinck.	

Amendments made.—Paragraph, as amended, put, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 6, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 7, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 8, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 9, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 10, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 11:—Amendment made.—Question put, That this paragraph, as amended, stand part of the proposed Report:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Tite.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Bentinck.	

Amendment proposed, after paragraph 5, to insert the following paragraph:—"The evidence taken by your Committee shows, that in some large parishes where the local administration has been most completely organised, there is only the vestry for the administration, both of the Local Government Acts and the Relief of the Poor; your Committee are of opinion that it deserves serious consideration whether this system might not be extended to all the districts of the metropolis. It would seem to be desirable, if practicable, in order to avoid a multiplicity of local authority in each district, and to promote efficiency of administration combined with economy, that the Board of Guardians should be merged in the Common Council recommended in the subjoined resolutions, so that the functions of local government which are now brought into close relations with the relief of the poor should be exercised by one body, subject to such superior control by the Municipal Council, also recommended in the resolutions, as may be necessary for the general welfare of the metropolis. The collection of rates would be economised and facilitated, though the rates might be made separately, or by different authorities, if they were all collected by one officer at the same time, either half-yearly or quarterly, as may be found desirable to ensure a due collection; but as an important measure affecting the administration of the Poor Law has been passed in the present Session, since much of the evidence on the subject was taken by your Committee, and is now in course of being carried into execution, your Committee have not deemed it expedient at present to come to any final resolution on these subjects"—(The *Chairman*).—Question proposed, That the proposed paragraph be inserted in the Draft Report.—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the words "are of opinion that" to the end of the paragraph, in order to add the words "it is undesirable that the management of the Metropolitan Poor, under the recent Acts of Parliament should be conferred upon the District Local Boards"—(Mr. Alderman *Lawrence*)—instead thereof.

Question

Question put, that the words "it deserves serious consideration"—stand part of the paragraph:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Tite.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Locke.	
Mr. Bentinck.	

Question, That the proposed paragraph be inserted in the Draft Report—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question put, That this Report, as amended, be the Report of the Committee to the House:—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Sandford.	Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Tite.	
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	
Mr. Mill.	
Mr. Locke.	
Mr. Bentinck.	

Ordered, to Report.

APPENDIX.

REPORTS MENTIONED IN THE FOREGOING REPORT.

Appendix, No. 1.

Appendix, No. 1.

REPORTS from the SELECT COMMITTEE on METROPOLIS LOCAL TAXATION. SESSION 1861.

FIRST REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the LOCAL TAXATION and GOVERNMENT of the METROPOLIS, and the LOCAL ADMINISTRATION of JUSTICE therein,

HAVE taken Evidence on the matters to them referred, and have agreed to Report the same to The House.

2 *May* 1861.

SECOND REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the LOCAL TAXATION and GOVERNMENT of the METROPOLIS, and the LOCAL ADMINISTRATION of JUSTICE therein,

HAVE taken further Evidence on the matters to them referred, and have agreed to Report the same to The House.

24 *June* 1861.

THIRD REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the LOCAL TAXATION and GOVERNMENT of the METROPOLIS, and the LOCAL ADMINISTRATION of JUSTICE therein;——HAVE considered the matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following REPORT:

YOUR Committee deem it convenient, before entering upon the subject referred to them, to present a concise view of the extent of the area which may be regarded as the metropolis.

In the earliest times, the City of London, bounded by its walls and gates, appears to have been accounted the metropolis, but, as the population spread beyond those restricted limits, the adjacent districts, now known as the outer wards, were added to, and incorporated with, the City of London. As the district on the opposite side of the river, at the foot of the ancient London Bridge, became more populous, it was also added to the City of London, but the citizens, instead of completely incorporating it as an additional ward, contented themselves with governing it by officers of their own appointment.

Subsequently,

Subsequently, when the parishes beyond the extended boundaries of the City of London and Southwark began to be more densely inhabited, a new metropolitan area was recognised, by associating together the clerks of the parishes, for the purpose of making certain mortuary returns, which then became known as the limits of the Bills of Mortality. This was also constituted a metropolitan area, by an Act passed in the 14th year of Charles the Second, for certain municipal purposes.

That Act appears to have expired, and no extended area for municipal purposes, except the management of the sewers, was afterwards maintained, but each district, however small, was suffered to obtain a Local Act, for the purpose of managing its affairs, without any reference to the interests of the metropolis as an entire city; in consequence, many separate districts were created, without any relation to one another, by several hundred Acts of Parliament, and without the whole being circumscribed by any defined limit.

The evil of this state of affairs was at length, in some degree, remedied by the Act passed in the year 1855, for the better management of the metropolis, by which its limits were defined, and it was divided into districts for such purposes of local government as are mentioned in that Act.

These districts are as follows:

	Acreage.	Inhabited Houses.	Assessment for Rating.	Population.
The Six largest Parishes having a separate Administration.				
MIDDLESEX:			£.	
St. Marylebone	1,509	16,357	976,820	161,680
St. Pancras	2,716	21,928	800,640	198,882
St. George's, Hanover-square	1,161	10,437	943,696	87,771
Islington	3,127	20,704	548,572	155,341
Shoreditch	646	17,052	265,772	129,364
SURREY:				
Lambeth	4,015	23,001	637,000	162,008
Seventeen other Parishes having a separate Administration.				
MIDDLESEX:				
Paddington	1,277	9,687	526,420	75,783
St. John, Hampstead	2,252	2,650	104,156	19,104
St. James, Westminster	164	3,333	431,500	35,324
St. Martin's-in-the-Fields	305	2,240	258,708	22,689
St. James and St. John, Clerkenwell	380	7,088	221,372	65,681
St. Luke	220	6,356	171,564	57,073
St. Matthew, Bethnal-green	760	14,812	130,320	104,905
St. George-in-the-East	243	6,169	170,274	48,878
Hamlet of Mile-end Old Town	681	10,768	162,388	73,064
Chelsea	865	8,314	234,248	63,439
Kensington	1,942	9,481	319,924	70,107
SURREY:				
Camberwell	4,342	12,098	250,000	71,488
St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark	282	7,238	146,000	55,510
Bermondsey	688	8,220	150,000	58,355
Newington	624	12,740	240,000	82,219
KENT:				
Woolwich	1,596	4,594	83,000	41,622
Rotherhithe	886	3,521	83,500	24,500
Fifty-nine Parishes and Places divided into 15 Districts.				
MIDDLESEX:				
Fulham District:				
St. Peter and St. Paul, Hammersmith	2,321	4,155	77,804	24,504
Fulham	1,834	2,483	55,916	15,538
Total	4,155	6,638	133,720	40,042

Appendix, No. 1.

	Acreage.	Inhabited Houses.	Assessment for Rating.	Population.
Middlesex—*continued.*			£.	
Westminster District:				
St. Margaret	657	3,039	252,177	30,407
St. John-the-Evangelist	260	3,723	274,500	37,483
Total	917	6,762	526,677	67,890
Strand District:				
St. Anne, Soho	53	1,370	90,648	17,426
St. Paul, Covent-garden	26	478	42,472	5,154
St. John the Baptist, Savoy	11	60	8,680	380
St. Mary-le-Strand	22	174	19,332	2,072
St. Clement Danes	43	1,388	90,784	15,562
Liberty of the Rolls	11	264	16,432	2,274
Total	166	3,734	268,348	42,868
Holborn District:				
St Andrew, Holborn	245	2,136	126,212	22,384
St. George the Martyr	36	765		9,867
St. Sepulchre	20	461	16,324	4,609
Saffron-hill, Hatton-garden, Ely-rents, and Ely-place.	30	643	25,129	7,148
The Liberty of Glasshouse-yard	5	171	3,978	1,455
Total	336	4,176	171,643	45,463
St. Giles' District:				
St Giles-in-the-Fields	123	2,700	261,696	36,684
St. George, Bloomsbury	122	1,990		17,392
Total	245	4,690	- -	54,076
Whitechapel District:				
St. Mary, Whitechapel	174	4,396	111,866	37,653
Christchurch, Spitalfields	74	2,065	37,876	20,593
St. Botolph, Aldgate	37	470	50,920	4,000
Holy Trinity, Minories	5	45	6,089	420
St. Katherine	23	9	17,328	208
Hamlet of Mile-end, New-town	42	1,778	13,132	10,846
Liberty of Norton Folgate	9	227	8,108	1,873
Old Artillery Ground	5	192	4,059	2,168
Tower District	37	41	2,799	1,207
Total	406	9,223	252,177	78,968
Hackney District:				
Hackney	3,290	12,371	253,084	76,687
St. Mary, Stoke Newington	639	1,041	41,356	6,608
Total	3,929	13,412	294,440	83,295
Limehouse District:				
St. Anne, Limehouse	265	3,693	67,024	27,156
St. John, Wapping	80	485	35,349	4,038
St. Paul, Shadwell	99	1,066	30,936	8,499
Ratcliffe	132	2,246	44,740	16,874
Total	576	7,490	178,049	56,567
Poplar District:				
All Saints, Poplar	1,490	43,529	184,548	5,868
St. Mary, Stratford-le-Bow	809	1,848	30,744	11,573
St. Leonard, Bromley	619	3,407	57,212	24,081
Total	2,918	48,784	272,504	41,522

	Acreage.	Inhabited Houses.	Assessment for Rating.	Population.
SURREY				
Wandsworth District:			£.	
Clapham	1,233	3,406	107,000	20,894
Tooting	561	367	9,800	2,055
Streatham	2,904	1,246	56,800	8,027
St. Mary, Battersea	2,343	3,125	83,800	19,599
Wandsworth	2,478	1,909	58,800	13,346
Putney	2,176	1,135	46,000	6,481
Total	11,695	11,188	362,200	70,402
St. Olave District:				
St. Olave	66	670	58,000	6,197
St. Thomas, Southwark	9	94	4,700	1,466
St. John, Horselydown	94	1,445	48,000	11,393
Total	169	2,209	110,700	19,056
St. Saviour's District:				
Christchurch	95	1,891	63,000	17,068
St. Saviour	155	2,580	101,000	19,101
Total	250	4,471	164,000	36,169
KENT:				
Lewisham District:				
Lewisham	5,789	3,784	108,800	22,803
Hamlet of Penge	840	666	43,800	5,015
Total	6,629	4,450	152,600	27,818
Greenwich District:				
St. Paul, Deptford	1,609	5,905	102,970	37,832
St. Nicholas, Deptford	149	1,172	20,000	8,139
Greenwich	2,013	6,148	120,000	40,002
Total	3,771	13,225	242,970	85,973
Plumstead District:				
Charlton next Woolwich	1,342	1,117	29,500	8,472
Plumstead	3,715	3,195	28,430	24,502
Eltham	3,712	537	14,900	3,009
Lee	1,273	953	23,500	6,160
Kidbrooke	755	116	8,600	804
Total	10,797	5,918	104,930	42,947
MIDDLESEX:				
Eight Extra-parochial Places:				
Close of the Collegiate Church of St. Peter.	-	36	1,420	323
The Charter House	10	1	1,948	255
The Inner Temple	16	42	20,198	148
The Middle Temple	5	33	13,000	81
Lincoln's Inn	9	23	16,420	47
Gray's Inn	13	56	12,676	308
Staple Inn	1	10	2,152	42
Furnival's Inn	2	14	3,164	202

Appendix, No. 1.

These, with the City of London, consisting of 99 parishes, containing 702 acres, 13,260 houses, assessed at 1,279,887 *l.*, and a population of 111,764 persons, now constitute the metropolis.

The area of the entire metropolis is, in acres - - -	78,029
The population in 1861 - - - - - - - -	2,803,034
The number of inhabited houses in 1861 - - - -	360,237
The assessment in 1860 - - - - - - -	£. 12,450,416

Your Committee now proceed to inquire into the local government of the metropolis, as above defined.

The City of London is a county of itself. Its governing bodies are the Court of Aldermen, the Court of Common Council, and the Court of Common Hall.

The Court of Aldermen consists of 26 Aldermen, including the Lord Mayor, of whom 13 form a quorum.

The Court of Common Council consists of the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, and 206 Common Councilmen, of whom the Lord Mayor, or his *locum tenens*, at least two other Aldermen, and a sufficient number of Common Councilmen to make up 40, are requisite to constitute a Court.

The Court of Common Hall consists of the Lord Mayor, or his *locum tenens*, four Aldermen at least, and such of the liverymen of the City Companies as are freemen of the City of London.

The City of London is also divided into wards for certain purposes of local government. The freemen occupying premises of the annual value of 10 *l.* in each ward, elect a number of Councilmen annually and one Alderman for life. The Aldermen and Councilmen are the governing body of the ward.

The Lord Mayor is selected annually by the Court of Aldermen from two Aldermen elected by the Livery in Common Hall.

The functions of the Court of Aldermen are both judicial and executive. In its judicial capacity it is a court of record, and decides disputes respecting the validity of the election of certain functionaries of the City and of the wards. The Court also appoints the Recorder and some officers, admits brokers and certain officers, and exercises a jurisdiction over them in hearing and adjudicating upon complaints of misconduct. In its executive capacity it possesses a concurrent power with the Common Council, of ordering payments out of the City's cash; it superintends the prisons, and exercises several powers under Acts of Parliament.

The most important affairs of the Corporation are regulated by the Court of Common Council. Its business, however, is chiefly transacted by the agency of its committees. Some are standing committees, others are appointed for special purposes. Their organization is of nearly a uniform character, upon the general principle of distributing authority as equally as possible amongst the members representing the several wards.

The committees act under references made to them by the Court, and they report upon the subjects referred, except when specially otherwise ordered; they are materially restricted in the exercise of their authority by the standing orders and resolutions of the Court.

By the Act 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120, a system of local management has been provided, on the following basis, for those parts of the metropolis which are beyond the City of London.

For each of the 23 largest parishes above named, vestries are appointed, whilst the smaller parishes are grouped together into districts before described, for each of which a district Board is appointed.

Eighteen vestrymen are to be elected for every parish in which the number of rated householders shall not exceed 1,000; six are to be added for every parish in which the rated householders exceed 1,000; 12 are to be added for every parish in which the rated householders exceed 2,000; and so in proportion, 12 for every 1,000, but the number of vestrymen is not to exceed 120. The incumbents and churchwardens of parishes are to constitute a part of the vestry. Parishes containing more than 2,000 rated householders are to be divided into wards for the election of vestrymen.

The members of the vestries and district Boards are elected by the rated householders; one-third of the number elected retire annually, when a new election to supply the vacancies is held.

The vestries and district Boards elect their chairman to preside at each meeting, except when any one, by law or custom, may be *ex officio* chairman, seven members form a quorum.

The qualification for a member of the vestry or district Board is being rated to the relief of the poor, upon a rental of not less than 40 *l.* per annum, and occupying lands, tenements, or hereditaments, in the parish or district for which he is elected.

The Metropolitan Board of Works is elected from the whole metropolis, on the following basis:

The Court of Common Council of the City of London, elect three members of the Board.

Each vestry for the six largest parishes before named, elects two members, and every other vestry and district Board elects one member; except Plumstead district united with Lewisham, and Rotherhithe with St. Olave, which jointly elect one member; the number of members thus amounts to 45.

One-third

One-third of the members retire annually, when a new election is held to supply their place. No qualification is required. Nine are a quorum.

The Chairman is appointed by the Board to hold office until removed by its vote; he is to be paid a salary of not less than 1,500 *l.*, nor more than 2,000 *l.* a year.

Committees may be appointed both by the metropolitan Board and by the vestries and district Boards for any purposes which would be better regulated and managed by their means; but it is provided that the acts of every committee shall be submitted to the general body of the Board by whom it has been appointed for their approval.

The Act for the local management of the metropolis has not, however, superseded parochial divisions of the metropolis, or the parochial and union authorities for the better administration of the poor law, or for ecclesiastical and some other purposes.

Besides these local authorities, the Lord Lieutenants of the county of Middlesex and of the Tower Hamlets, the Commissioners of Lieutenancy of the City of London, and the Lord Lieutenants of the counties of Surrey and Kent, exercise the powers belonging to their respective offices in those parts of the metropolis within their several jurisdictions.

The justices of the peace in sessions for the counties of Middlesex, Kent, and Surrey are likewise invested with important functions for the local government of those parts of the metropolis which are within their respective jurisdictions. These functions, apart from the administration of justice, are for the most part performed by committees selected from amongst themselves, to whom special subjects are referred.

There is also a Corporation for the City of Westminster, composed of the High Steward, who is appointed by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, the Deputy Steward, and certain Burgesses appointed by him, for some limited purposes of little importance. In the present Session a Bill has been introduced to relieve the inhabitants from the inconveniences which result from the exercise of certain powers with which these corporate officers are invested.

The consideration of the legitimate objects of local government, as distinguished from the general government of the Crown, as well as the mode of administration, has so constantly engaged the attention of Parliament since the passing of the Municipal Corporation Reform Act, that your Committee need only recapitulate the chief subjects which Parliament has from time to time determined ought to be left in the hands of the local authorities of the cities and towns of England.

By the Municipal Corporation Act, in certain cities and boroughs separate quarter-sessions may be held; a coroner is to be appointed, and the prosecution and custody of criminal offenders is to be superintended by the local authorities.

Where the city or borough is a county of itself, the governing body is to name a sheriff.

In all corporate cities and boroughs, the governing body is to superintend the watching and lighting; and to make bye-laws for the good rule of the place, and the suppression of all nuisances not punishable by law.

By the Towns Improvement Act, 1847, general provisions are framed, which, with the sanction of Parliament, may be applied in any city or town, for the management, by the local authorities, of sewers and drainage of houses, paving, maintaining, cleansing, lighting, and regulating the streets; the prevention of nuisances of smoke and fires, the regulation of buildings, of lodging-houses, of slaughter-houses, of public bathing-places, baths and drying grounds, of public clocks, of the supply of water, and of interments.

By the Towns Police Clauses Act general provisions are, in like manner, framed for the prevention of nuisances in the streets, and for taking precautions against fire, for the superintendence of places of public resort, and of hackney carriages plying for hire, and public bathing. By the Local Government Act, 1848, further provisions are made for the same purposes, and also for the construction of bridges by the local authorities.

By the Nuisances Removal Act, the Public Health Acts, and the Burial Acts, the local authorities are also invested with large powers for the preservation of health.

By the Public Libraries Act, 1855, the local authorities, with the sanction of a majority of the ratepayers, are empowered to establish public libraries and museums.

In all the Acts there are also provisions for levying rates to carry them into execution.

It appears, however, to have been found impracticable to apply many of these Acts either wholly or in part to the metropolis, and in consequence several special Acts have been passed, all of which tend to show that the circumstances of the metropolis are so exceptional as to demand a separate and distinct consideration in organising any municipal administration.

By an Act passed in 1852, concerning the burial of the dead in the metropolis, the parochial authorities are empowered, separately or in conjunction, to make arrangements for the extra mural interment of the dead, and one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State is to issue orders, and to make regulations for that purpose.

By another Act passed in the same year, respecting the supply of water to the metropolis, the Board of Trade is to regulate the sources of the supply of water, and to superintend the maintenance of a constant supply by the water companies of pure and wholesome water, sufficient for the domestic use of the inhabitants, but the churchwardens are empowered to compel the supply of water to each house in the parish.

By the Act, 1855, for the better local management of the metropolis, provision is made for the exercise of certain functions by the Metropolitan Board of Works, which may be thus shortly enumerated: the supervision of the main drainage and principal sewers; the

Appendix, No. 1.

general control over all sewage works, the naming of streets and numbering of houses, preserving the line of streets, improving the streets and thoroughfares. But it is specially provided that when any plan of improvement shall exceed 50,000 *l.*, the Board shall obtain the sanction of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Public Works and Buildings.

The vestries and district Boards are to exercise the following powers within their respective districts: The management of the local sewage and drainage, and of the paving, lighting, watering, cleansing, and improvements, and all other duties, powers, and authorities in anywise relating to the government or concerns of the district, or of the inhabitants thereof, except such duties, powers, and authorities as relate to the affairs of the Church, or the management or relief of the poor, or the administration of any money or other property applicable to such relief then vested under any local Act then in force. The rights of parishes, and their powers acquired under the Act 9 & 10 Vict. c. 74, for regulating baths and washhouses, and the Act 15 & 16 Vict. c. 85, to regulate the burial of the dead in the metropolis, are also reserved to each parish.

The local Boards and vestries are likewise empowered to regulate vaults and cellars under the streets; to restrain the occupation of underground dwellings; to remove projections and obstructions from houses in the streets; to control the erection of hoards; to regulate the scavengering of houses; to object to licenses for slaughter-houses being granted by the justices; to appoint medical officers of health, and inspectors of nuisances; to exercise the duties and powers under the Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Acts.

Under the Metropolis Building Act of 1855, the Metropolitan Board of Works is invested with extensive and varied powers to regulate the erection of all buildings within the limits of its jurisdiction.

"The Metropolis Gas Act, 1860," empowers the Secretary of State for the Home Department to regulate the division of the metropolis into districts for the supply of gas by existing gas companies, and to examine into complaints respecting the quality of the supply. The Metropolitan Board of Works, and the vestries and district Boards taking any supply of gas, are empowered, either separately or jointly, to test the gas, and to take measures to insure its being of the standard prescribed by that Act.

Of the various duties thus imposed upon the local authorities, the main drainage and the improvement of the thoroughfares are by far the most important, as regards the charge which they are likely to entail upon the ratepayers; these, therefore, your Committee deem it right to notice more at length.

Committees have been repeatedly appointed by the House of Commons for the purpose of considering the numerous plans which have been proposed for the improvement of the metropolis, and the result of their labours are to be found in the Reports from time to time made to the House; but the Committee on Metropolitan Communications, appointed in 1855, suggested the following principles for regulating future improvements, which are worthy of consideration:

1. "That wherever the main arteries, along which the traffic of the metropolis "now flows, are inadequate for its reception or severely burdened thereby, relief "should be at once sought, either by opening up new routes or by enlarging the "existing ones.

2. "That more direct lines of communication should be established than now exist "between several principal points of the metropolis.

3. "That the different metropolitan railway termini should be connected by railway "with each other, with the docks, the river, and the Post Office, so as to accelerate "the mails, and take all through traffic, not only of passengers but, in a still more "important degree, of goods off the streets.

4. "That all existing restrictions upon the natural and convenient flow of traffic, "such, for example, as tolls on the roads and bridges within the metropolitan district "should, as a general rule, be removed.

5. "That wherever as, for example, in the case of the Metropolitan Railway, works "for improving the communication of the metropolis can be carried out by private "enterprise, that course be adopted, and your Committee consider that most "important results may be secured in this way.

6. "That when the improvements contemplated partake more of the character "of a public benefit than a commercial speculation, care be taken, by such "means as economising the waste spaces of the river, or opening new streets "through poor neighbourhoods, to diminish the costs of the undertaking to the lowest "possible point.

7. "That where the objects specified in the 5th and 6th can be more efficiently "carried out by the combined agency of railways and streets, improvements sug-"gested by Mr. Pearson, it may be desirable to economise expenditure by uniting "the two objects, under the superintendence of the intended Metropolitan Board of "Works, as recommended in the Railway Commissioners' Reports of 1846, referred "to in the evidence of Mr. Pearson.

8. "That all the cost of public improvements required by the existing or prospec-"tive demands of metropolitan traffic, whether in forming new streets, or enlarging "existing

"existing ones, or in purchasing or building bridges, or removing toll-bars should be "defrayed by a local rate, levied on the whole metropolitan district.

The Committee added their opinion that, "until some authority is established in "the metropolis sufficiently comprehensive to give effect to improvements in the "communication laid down on a scale adequate to the existing and prospective wants "of the traffic, little can be done by the interposition of the Legislature in this matter; "they, therefore, desire to express their satisfaction at the prospect of a Metro-"politan Board of Works being shortly established, with power to carry out those "changes which the existing state of London renders it impossible much longer to "postpone."

With reference to the main drainage of the metropolis, the Metropolitan Board in May 1856 completed a plan for effecting that object, at an estimated cost of 2,135,196 *l.*, and submitted it for the approbation of the Chief Commissioner of Works, as required by the Act of 1855. The Chief Commissioner being dissatisfied with the plan, referred it to an Engineer Officer of the Board of Trade and two Civil Engineers of his own selection, for examination; they presented to him a report condemning the plan, and proposing instead one of their own, which they estimated would cost 5,437,265 *l.* The Metropolitan Board declined to adopt this costly scheme, and referred it to two eminent engineers who reported that the scheme in one aspect or another would cost from 7,000,000 *l.* to 11,000,000 *l.*, and that it might be regarded as impracticable. They approved of the plan of the Board with some modifications, estimating the cost of the whole at 2,300,000 *l.*

Upon this an Act was passed in 1858, to vest the power of carrying out the main drainage in the Metropolitan Board alone, without being subject to the control of the Chief Commissioner of Works, and authorising the Board to levy a rate of 3 *d.* in the pound, and to raise a loan of 3,000,000 *l.* for that purpose. The Board have accordingly proceeded to execute the plan of their own referees; contracts have been entered into for the construction of the works, with some exceptions, of which the particulars will be found in the Appendix, at a cost ensuring the undertaking being completed within the prescribed limit of 3,000,000 *l.* An arrangement has also been made for borrowing the requisite money from the Bank of England, on bonds at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. interest, under which the sum of 600,000 *l.* has been received and expended on the works. The rate of 3 *d.* in the pound produced, up to the year 1861, 451,642 *l.*, out of which 280,000 *l.* has been applied in repayment of the loan.

The Committee appointed last year on the Thames Embankment, were of opinion, that the embankment on the north side of the Thames, from Westminster to or nearly to Southwark Bridge, would afford a desirable mode of improving the banks and bed of the river, and facilitate the construction of the Low Level Sewer along the foreshore, while a roadway on the embankment would greatly relieve the crowded thoroughfares; and they added, "The Legislature having already entrusted to the Metropolitan Board of Works "the main drainage of the metropolis, and armed them with powers to deal with the fore-"shore of the river, in connection therewith, your Committee recommend that the con-"struction of the embankment be also confided to them."

The embankment of the Thames, which in reports of former Committees had been considered a secondary object, has therefore now become one of the first importance, and demands further notice.

Before the Metropolitan Board of Works had taken any steps to carry into effect the recommendation of the Committee, the Government decided to recommend the appointment of a Royal Commission for the purpose of determining upon the best mode of embanking the Thames, for reasons which are explained at length in the evidence of the Chief Commissioner of Works, but which may be briefly stated; that as the aid of the Government might be required to enable the Board to pass a Bill through Parliament to provide the requisite funds for the work, the Government ought to exercise some control over the undertaking; and that, as the engineer of the Board had suggested a plan of embankment to the Committee of last Session, the Board ought not to be entrusted with the selection of the plan to be executed. Notwithstanding the forcible remonstrances of the Metropolitan Board the Committee was appointed, and it has been represented by one of the Members of the Board that they only acquiesced in their chairman being one of the commissioners under an impression that otherwise they would not be able to obtain the requisite funds to carry out the work.

Another subject closely connected with metropolitan communications and improvements is the introduction of railways and stations into the heart of the metropolis, respecting which a Royal Commission was appointed in the year 1846. The Commissioners suggested several restrictions which should be imposed upon railway lines terminating within certain limits around the metropolis, and they added that, if at any time thereafter it should be deemed advisable to admit railways within those limits, it should be done in conformity with some uniform plan, carefully laid down, under the authority of Her Majesty's Government, and sanctioned by the wisdom of Parliament; and that under no circumstances should the thoroughfares of the metropolis and the property and comfort of its inhabitants, be surrendered to separate schemes, brought forward at different times, and without reference to each other.

These suggestions, however, were found impracticable, and have long since been disregarded in practice; but as there appears to be no authority charged with the responsi-

Appendix, No. 1.

bility of watching over schemes for the construction of railways within the metropolis, and protecting the interests of the inhabitants, your Committee suggest the consideration whether the Metropolitan Board of Works should not be empowered to appear when sufficient ground exists before Select Committees of the Houses of Parliament, by counsel, and pay the expenses out of the rates levied by them.

Various schemes for the improvement on a comprehensive scale of the municipal and local Government of the metropolis, have been suggested in the evidence taken by your Committee. But your Committee conceive that the discussion of these plans, involving imperial as well as local interests of such vast magnitude should form the subject of future inquiry, and they therefore wish to express no opinion as to their comparative merits.

Your Committee, however, may observe that the tendency of the evidence would lead to the conclusion that, while the Metropolitan Board of Works, as at present constituted, is fully competent to discharge the duties imposed upon it, greater authority would attach to its deliberations were its members elected directly by the ratepayers of the metropolis.

Your Committee now proceed to inquire into the taxation of the metropolis:—

The rate of direct taxation levied on real property differs exceedingly in the several parishes. In some parishes the rates are so excessive that members of the Metropolitan Board of Works, examined before your Committee, insist that this direct taxation has reached its utmost limits, and that it is impossible to raise funds by further rating, whilst in other parishes the rates are by no means heavy, and would admit of a large increase before attaining the same result. This great difference is mainly attributable to the inequality of the poor rates. Into this point, however, your Committee have abstained from inquiring, as it is more within the province of another Committee now sitting for the purpose of investigating the operation and administration of the poor laws. Your Committee, therefore, confine their remarks to local rates and taxes for other purposes.

The whole amount raised by rates for the local government of the metropolis, exclusive of the City of London, and of the poor rates, is computed by Mr. Beal, examined before the Committee, at 1,263,363 *l.* These rates are composed of the police rate of 6 *d.* in the pound; the county rate, varying for the different parts of the metropolis in each county; the main drainage rate of 3 *d.* in the pound, and local rates for lighting, paving, draining, scavengering, and other purposes of a like nature, varying in amount in each parish or district.

The burthen of local taxation of the metropolis is enhanced by the peculiar fact that the expense of maintaining its roads and thoroughfares is greatly increased by the enormous number of omnibuses and cabs constantly traversing its streets, whilst no portion of the taxes or charge levied upon them is now applied in aid of the cost of maintaining the roads.

The tax upon hackney coaches in London was first imposed by the Act 14 Car. 2, c. 2, to raise a fund for paving, amending, and enlarging the streets within the Bills of Mortality.

But, in the reign of William the Third, the tax was transferred to the national Exchequer, and has ever since continued to form part of the public revenue. No tax of the same nature, levied in any other part of the United Kingdom, is paid into the Exchequer; but all horses and carriages let out for hire are subject to a rate of duty according to the number of carriages or horses kept by each person. It appears from a statement furnished by the Inland Revenue Office, and an estimate founded thereon by Mr. Bradfield, examined by your Committee, that if the hackney coaches in the metropolis were subject to the same rate of duty as carriages of the same kind in the country, the amount of duty now levied would be reduced from 87,812 *l.* to 41,947 *l.*; the difference of 45,865 *l.* being, in effect, a special tax on hackney carriages in London. Your Committee are of opinion, that, in justice to the inhabitants, whatever amount may, in fact, be paid in excess of the duty as it would be levied in other parts of the kingdom, ought to be remitted or applied in aid of the rates levied for local purposes.

It appears that by the existing law, if any conveyance is run upon rails, instead of a common road, the duty is levied not upon the number of miles run, but by a per-centage upon the gross receipts; and there being now a considerable railway traffic within the metropolis, which, with the extension of the metropolitan railways, will largely increase, the railways will be brought into direct competition with the omnibuses. It has been estimated by one of the witnesses, that the amount charged for the benefit of the public exchequer upon omnibuses, under the present system, is about double the sum that would be payable if they were assessed upon the same basis as railways. Your Committee would therefore direct the attention of Parliament to this question.

The chief items of indirect local taxation, are those collected by the Corporation of London.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
1st. The coal tax of 1 *s.* 1 *d.* per ton, producing for the last year, the net income of - - - - - - - - -	243,384	12	5
2nd. The duty of 4 *s.* 9½ *d.* per tun on wines - - -	9,228	16	–
3rd. The metage duty on corn, of ½ *d.* a quarter on British corn, brought in coasting vessels, and ¾ *d.* on foreign corn -	13,135	12	2
£.	265,749	–	7

To these may be added several other minor duties, also collected by the City of London, the net amount of which is inconsiderable.

The duty of 1*s.* 1*d.* on coals is the amount of three separate charges; one of 4*d.* a ton, received by the City of London; the second, of 8*d.* a ton, levied for metropolitan improvements, and paid over to Her Majesty's Commissioner of Works; and the third, of 1*d.* a ton, levied for special objects.

With regard to the impost of 4*d.* a ton, Your Committee find that the City exercised the right of appointing coalmeters, for the purpose of weighing or measuring all coal imported into the Port of London, or water of Thames, under their conservancy, and that the coalmeters paid to the City an annual sum of 80*l.* a year each, from the earliest times of which the Corporation have any accounts until the year 1785. This fact was especially brought under the notice of The House of Commons in the year 1692, when the City of London laid before The House a statement of its revenues which, as respects the metage of coal, is as follows:—

"The City's four coalmeters' places, at 80*l.* per annum each, 320*l.*

"The rent of 10 coalmeters' places, of 80*l.* per annum for each of them, have, time out of mind, belonged to the Lord Mayor for the time being, for the maintenance of several tables for above 30 officers, bound to constant attendance at the Lord Mayor's house about the affairs of this City; and the said rents were never paid to the Chamber, nor esteemed part of the public revenue of the body corporate."

The coalmeters received a sum of 4*d.* a chaldron for measuring the coal, for which they performed that duty, and defrayed its incidental expenses.

From the year 1785 to the year 1830 the Corporation of London gradually effected the important change of receiving the metage duties itself, and paying certain sums to the coalmeters, instead of receiving from them the fixed annual payment of 80*l.* a year. The revenue thus obtained by the Corporation in the year 1829 amounted to the sum of 26,559*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, subject to the payment of 6,639*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* to the deputy meters, and 2,860*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* for charges and expenses of metage, making a deduction of 9,499*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, or about 36 per cent. on their receipts, which were thus reduced to the net sum of 15,059*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* in the year.

But at that period the various charges then levied upon coals having engaged the attention of Parliament, an Act was passed, in 1831, for a period of seven years, abolishing the system of metage, and providing that the duties on coal should be levied by the ton weight, which was about four-fifths of the chaldron. By another Statute, passed in 1845, it was enacted that the duties should be levied within the area defined by a radius of 20 miles from the Post Office. These Acts, with slight modifications, have been continued until the present time.

The City of London having thus been permitted to receive the duty of 4*d.* a ton on that basis, the claim to levy 4*d.* a chaldron, subject to a deduction of 36 per cent., in the Port of London, and river under their conservancy, was converted into a power to receive 4*d.* on four-fifths of a chaldron, without being subject to any deduction (except some payments for expiring pensions), on all coal brought both by land and by sea, within 20 miles of London. The duty of 4*d.* by these means, as well as by the growth of population, increased to 74,824*l.* in the past year. Hence it is apparent that whilst in the year 1785 the City received only 1,120*l.*, and in the year 1829 the sum of 15,059*l.* for superintending the discharge of important duties by the coalmeters of London, it now receives 74,824*l.*, without rendering in return any service whatever in relation to the trade in coal. Your Committee, however, deem it unnecessary to pursue this subject further; as the House has just passed a Bill to appropriate the duty of 4*d.*, which it has continued for 10 years, first, for the payment of certain debts incurred in effecting public improvements; and, secondly, in aid of future public improvements in and adjacent to the City of London.

Your Committee also think it unnecessary to report specially on the remaining duties of 8*d.* and 1*d.*, as they have also been continued by the same Bill for the further term of 10 years, and have been appropriated for the construction of the Thames Embankment, and for other metropolitan improvements.

Before quitting this subject your Committee desire to call the attention of the House to the position of certain funds which have been heretofore applied to metropolitan improvements.

To explain the nature of these funds, it is requisite to revert to the proceedings of the Corporation of London in Parliament, in the reign of William the Third, when the Corporation presented a petition to The House of Commons, setting forth, that by the general and national troubles, after the reign of Charles the First; by their former payments of great sums, for interest to the orphans; by the great Fire of London; by reason of the late illegal *quo warranto* brought against them; and other great losses; their debts to the orphans amounted to a sum vastly greater than they were able to pay, without the assistance of the House; that the petitioners had used their utmost endeavours to raise moneys, and from time to time had paid the same towards the relief of the said orphans; but all the powers and estate of the City could not satisfy their debts; and praying the consideration of The House in order to a provision to be made for payment of the debts due to the orphans of the City.

The accounts of the Corporation laid before the House having shown that it was insolvent, an Act passed by which the debts of the Corporation, amounting to 747,472*l.* 18*s.* 4½*d.*, were converted into a perpetual annuity, at the rate of four per cent.,

Appendix, No. 1.

being 29,898 *l.* 18 *s.* 4 *d.*, for the payment of which a fund was created of the subjoined items, whereof the produce of the first year was as follows:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
A perpetual duty of 4 *d.* a chaldron on coals, and a temporary duty of 6 *d.* on coals	4,656	7	8
A perpetual duty of 4 *s.* per tun on wine	3,103	11	11
To be levied by assessment on the personal estates of the inhabitants of the City, in perpetuity	2,000	–	–
A charge on the City revenues in perpetuity, immediately	8,000	–	–
To be charged, after 50 years, the further sum of 6,000 *l.* yearly, in perpetuity.			
A tax of 5 *s.* upon every person thenceforth admitted a freeman of the City, in perpetuity	367	5	–
A tax of 2 *s.* 6 *d.* upon the binding of apprentices to any person free of the City, in perpetuity	407	5	–
The profits of the City aqueducts, in perpetuity	991	10	–
The profits of a lease of certain lights to be used in the City for 21 years	600	–	–
£.	20,125	19	7

In 1748 another Act was passed, by which, after reciting that the City rents had fallen, and that the Corporation was still unable to discharge its obligations, the sum of 6,000 *l.* a year, which was then to have been paid by the Corporation, was reduced to 2,000 *l.* a year, thus making the total payment 10,000 *l.* a year; and the 6 *d.* coal-tax, which was then to have expired, was continued for 35 years longer. It was also provided that any surplus income should be applied in redeeming the capital of the debt, in satisfaction of which the permanent annuity had been granted.

In 1767 the duty of 6 *d.*, which would then have expired, was further continued until 1831, and the annual payment of the Corporation was raised by 1,500 *l.*, making the total payment 11,500 *l.* a year. This fund, however, was at the same time charged with a sum of 300,000 *l.* for building Blackfriars Bridge, and other metropolitan improvements.

In the year 1795 the inhabitants of the City were relieved of the charge of 2,000 *l.* per annum on their personal estates.

The rest of the fund was from time to time charged with various sums for local purposes, the balance being applied for the redemption of the annuity created by the Act of 1694.

In the year 1829 the fund was converted into the London Bridge Approaches Fund, and was charged with 1,000,000 *l.* for the purpose of making the approaches to London Bridge, and continued until 1852. By an Act passed in 1830, it was provided that the contribution payable by the City of London should also form part of the fund; but in 1831 the coal duties of 6 *d.* and 4 *d.* payable on account of the fund were reduced to 8 *d.* under the Act passed, as before mentioned, for regulating the duty on coal.

This fund has since been charged with other sums for public improvements, but they have now been paid off.

Whilst the contributions of the Corporation to the fund for the payment of its debts was diminished below the amount originally imposed in perpetuity, the amount levied on the inhabitants beyond the City yearly increased with the growth of the population. In 1750 this coal tax produced 20,063 *l.*; and in 1820 it reached the annual sum of about 52,000 *l.*; the payments annually made by the Corporation out of its own funds being considerably less than the permanent annuity of 29,898 *l.* 18 *s.* 4 *d.*; the debt was, in fact, entirely redeemed by the continued application of the surplus arising from the increased produce of the tax upon coal.

It therefore remains to be considered what should be the destination of that part of the London Bridge Approaches Fund which has not been included in the Bill recently passed.

Your Committee are of opinion that the permanent annuity payable by the City of London in discharge of its own debt having been entirely redeemed by taxes levied on the inhabitants of the whole metropolis, the charge which was imposed by Parliament on the City in perpetuity ought to be continued and applied for the benefit of those inhabitants.

Your Committee need not notice the duty on wine, as it has been continued by the Bill just passed, and thereby appropriated to the embankment of the Thames and the improvement of the metropolis.

Your Committee will therefore pass to the duty on corn. It appears, from a decision in the reign of Charles II., that this duty was claimed by the Corporation, and allowed to be legal. The judgment in the case will be found in the Appendix.

The Corporation appoint cornmeters to measure all grain brought into the Port of London, and a certain proportion of the fees received by those persons for performing that service is paid over to the Corporation. Your Committee have not pursued the examination into the nature and operation of this duty at length, as they find that a Select Committee, appointed in the year 1858, after hearing counsel for the Corporation, reported, without dissent, in favour of a Bill for the abolition of the duty, subject to provisions for making

making compensation to the cornmeters then employed. This Bill, which related also to a reform of the Corporation, was dropped by the Government, by whom it was introduced, but your Committee see no reason to doubt the correctness of the conclusion arrived at by that Committee. If, however, the duty on corn is to be continued, Your Committee think that, being levied upon all the inhabitants, it should be applied, like the duty on wine, for their general benefit.

With regard to this and all the other duties received by the Corporation of London, Your Committee deem it proper to call the attention of the House to the fact that, until recently, the Corporation of London were conservators of the Thames and Port of London, and it has been pointed out to Your Committee that, in order to clear up any doubt of the validity of the charters confirming the rights claimed by the Corporation to levy duties under the name of metage, in the reign of James I., Lord Coke, then attorney-general, allowed a judgment, at the suit of the Corporation, to be entered in their favour, establishing their claims against the Crown. This judgment will also be found in the Appendix.

In the year 1857, an Act was passed, transferring the conservancy of the Thames to a newly constituted Board of Conservancy. This Act provides that all tolls, tonnage, port, and harbour dues which had been from time to time by any Act of Parliament or otherwise given and granted to, and been received and taken by the Corporation of London, together with all other moneys which might be received by the Conservators, then applicable to the conservancy and improvement of the River Thames, should form a fund to be called the Conservancy Fund. The Act further provides that the surplus of this fund should be applied in paying off any moneys raised by the Conservators, and also any money due on the credit of the piers, rents, tolls, and other dues and profits to be received by the Conservators; and when the moneys so raised and due shall have been paid off, the surplus should be applied in reduction of such of the tolls authorised by the Act as the Conservators should think fit to reduce; and in case there should be any surplus after the tolls should have been reduced to such extent as the Conservatives should think fit, the surplus should be applied to and for such purposes as Parliament should direct.

Your Committee are of opinion that any surplus of that fund ought to be applied towards local objects connected with the River Thames, such as embankments and bridges.

The subject of public property in the metropolis, though not in terms referred to Your Committee, is nevertheless intimately connected with local taxation, in so far as such property can be justly applied to purposes which would otherwise have to be provided for out of local taxes.

Your Committee have not inquired into the varied interests in all the public property belonging to local bodies in the metropolis, as this would involve many complicated questions both of law and fact. They will content themselves with observing that it is a subject worthy of the most careful investigation.

The administration of justice in the metropolis may be considered under the two heads of criminal and civil justice.

For purposes of criminal justice, a considerable addition has been made to the area of the metropolis. The metropolitan police district for the administration of the police embraces the whole county of Middlesex, and all other parishes or places of which any part is within 15 miles of Charing Cross, thus including parts of Essex, Hertfordshire, Surrey, and Kent; but the City of London is excepted, and maintains a separate police administration.

The district subject to the jurisdiction of the Central Criminal Court, on the other hand, includes the City of London, but excludes portions of the police district in the counties of Essex and Hertford.

The chief part of the metropolis, with the exception of the city, is divided into districts, for each of which a police magistrate is appointed by the Crown. In the City of London, the Lord Mayor and the other aldermen act as magistrates. The justices of the peace for the county act as magistrates in the rest of the metropolis. These authorities exercise the power of summary conviction, and of committal to the sessions and assizes within their respective jurisdictions.

The courts exercising jurisdiction within the metropolis, for the trial of prisoners and hearing appeals against summary convictions, and performing other functions of sessions, are the London sessions, the Central Criminal Court, the Middlesex sessions, the Surrey sessions, and the Kent sessions. These sessions are prohibited from trying indictments for any capital felony, and the other crimes and offences specified in the Act of the 5 & 6 Vict. c. 38, which must be tried at the Central Criminal Court; but as all criminal cases may also be committed to that court, there is no law to determine whether these should be tried at the sessions for the county in which the offence has been committed, or at the Central Court.

Cases occurring in Middlesex, committed to the sessions, are tried at Clerkenwell, in Surrey at Horsemonger-lane, Reigate, Kingston, or Guildford, and in Kent at Maidstone.

The sittings of the Central Criminal Court take place once a month, and are presided over by one of the judges of the superior courts, or the recorder, common serjeant, or judge of the Sheriffs' Court, who are salaried officers of the Corporation of London. The Middlesex sessions are held once a fortnight, and are presided over by the assistant

Appendix, No. 1.

judge or his deputy, who are paid by the Crown. The sessions for Surrey are held 18 times in the year; and the Kent sessions, for the division embracing the part within the metropolis, are held four times a year. They are conducted by the justices for the county. Some inconvenience results from the manner in which the sessions of the Central Criminal Court, and the Middlesex and other sessions, are held. Your Committee think it deserves consideration whether the present system might not be improved by giving more complete effect to the principles on which the Central Criminal Court was established; and, instead of limiting its sittings to 12 in the year, so constituting the court that it would sit as often as might be requisite for the trial by jury of all such offences committed within the limits of its jurisdiction, as are not of sufficient magnitude to require the presence of a judge of the superior courts, reserving the more important cases for the attendance of that judge once a month.

Your Committee also deem it right to refer The House to the opinion expressed by the Commissioners, in their Report on the Corporation of London, in 1854, respecting the separate police of the City of London. "We believe that the incorporation of the City with the larger district by which it is environed, is a measure recommended alike by considerations of efficiency and economy. The annual expenses of the metropolitan police are divided between the parishes and the Consolidated Fund, the parishes paying three-fourths and the Consolidated Fund paying one-fourth of the whole. In the City a similar division is made between the ratepayers and the Corporation, the police rate bearing three-fourths and the City chest contributing one-fourth of the annual expense. We recommend, in the event of the present distinction between the City police and the rest of the metropolitan police being abolished, that the Corporation be relieved from this contribution, and that the City receive the same assistance from the Consolidated Fund, towards the maintenance of its police, as the rest of the metropolis." Since this recommendation, arrangements have been made for contributing from the Consolidated Fund one-fourth of the charge for the police throughout England.

With regard to the local administration of justice in civil cases, the metropolis, except the City, has been divided into county court districts, with a judge for each district, for the trial of actions under the County Court Acts. But in the City of London there are two courts, the Mayor's Court and the Sheriffs' Court, exercising jurisdiction under special Acts and local usages. Your Committee see no reason why the procedure for the recovery of small debts should not be made uniform throughout the metropolis.

With respect to causes which are not cognizable by the County Courts, local actions arising in the City of London must be tried within the City, and in Middlesex at Westminster. Those arising on the south side of the Thames can be tried only at the assizes for the counties of Surrey and Kent, whilst they might, with much greater facility, be tried at Westminster.

The Mayor's Court possesses a general jurisdiction over causes of action arising in the City; but it appears that very few cases (which could not be tried in the County Court) are, in fact, tried in the Mayor's Court. The courts at Westminster also try, at the sittings held in London and at Westminster, all causes which are not local; but the juries for the trial of these cases are summoned from the City of London and the County of Middlesex alone.

Your Committee think it matter for consideration whether it would not be advantageous to the inhabitants if some arrangements were made for the trial of all causes in the metropolis, not cognizable by the County Courts, at a central civil court of Nisi Prius, analogous to the Central Criminal Court.

By the proposed alterations, all the jurymen residing within the metropolis could be formed into one jury list; and by better and more methodical arrangements, Your Committee are of opinion that much relief might be afforded to this most useful class of the community, who, in return for the very important duty they render to society, should be treated with the utmost consideration.

Appendix, No. 2.

REPORTS from the SELECT COMMITTEE on METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.

SESSION 1866.

FIRST REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the LOCAL GOVERNMENT and LOCAL TAXATION of the METROPOLIS;——HAVE made progress in the Matters referred to them, and have agreed to the following REPORT:—

1. YOUR Committee having been informed by the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works that several Bills have been submitted to Parliament in the present Session, at the instance of that Board, for the purpose of effecting improvements in the metropolis; but that the Board will be unable to proceed with them unless funds are provided by Parliament to carry them into execution, your Committee have deemed it expedient to inquire, in the first instance, into the local taxation of the metropolis, under the Acts constituting the Metropolitan Board of Works, and to report thereon to the House.

2. The Metropolitan Board of Works was organised for the commencement of business in December 1855, under the provisions of the 18th and 19th Vict. c. 120, called the "Metropolis Local Management Act."

3. By that Act the City of London, 82 parishes and eight extra-parochial places, containing 78,029 acres, are constituted the metropolis, subject to the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board. By the Census of 1861 this metropolis contained 360,237 houses, inhabited by a population of 2,803,034, which is estimated by the Registrar General to have increased at the present time to 3,054,940 persons.

4. For the purposes of local government under the Act, the metropolis is divided into the City of London and 38 other districts, 23 of which are single parishes, and the remaining 15 are composed of two or more smaller parishes grouped together, as shown in the Appendix, No. 6, to this Report. The affairs of each parish and district are respectively managed by vestries and district Boards.

5. By the Act of 1855, the Metropolitan Board was empowered to construct the main drainage and principal sewers, to control all other sewage works constructed by the vestries and local Boards, to improve the streets and thoroughfares, to preserve the line of streets in the erection of buildings, to regulate the naming of streets and the numbering of houses. It was however provided, that any scheme of main drainage, as well as any plan of improvement, of which the cost should exceed 50,000 *l.*, was to be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Chief Commissioner of Works; but by an Act passed in 1858, this provision was repealed. The Board was also empowered by the 19 & 20 Vict. c. 19, to make applications to Parliament for the purpose of providing parks, pleasure grounds, places of recreation, and open spaces for the improvement of the metropolis and the public benefit of the inhabitants thereof.

6. By the Metropolis Building Act of 1855, the Metropolitan Board was invested with extended and varied powers to regulate the erection of all buildings within the metropolis.

7. The powers and duties of the Board have been considerably extended by subsequent legislation, more especially for the purpose of watching over the supply of purer gas, and the due measurement of gas; the storage of petroleum; the protection of unowned open spaces; the regulation of the use of locomotive engines on roads; the collection of the rate to defray the charges for relieving the casual poor; the establishment and maintenance of a fire brigade; and the superintending of measures for the suppression of the cattle plague. The Board has also been authorised to appear and protect the public interest when affected by any local Bill introduced into Parliament.

Appendix, No. 2.

8. The vestries and district Boards are invested with the following powers: the management of the local sewage and drainage, and of the paving, lighting, watering, cleansing, and improvements, and all other duties, powers and authorities in any wise relating to the government or concerns of the district, or of the inhabitants thereof, except such duties, powers, and authorities as relate to the affairs of the Church, or the management or relief of the poor, or the administration of any money or other property applicable to such relief. The rights of parishes, and other powers acquired under certain Acts of Parliament are reserved to each parish.

9. They are also specially empowered to regulate vaults and cellars under the streets; to restrain the occupation of underground dwellings; to remove projections and obstructions from houses in the streets; to control the erection of hoards; to regulate the scavengering of houses; to object to licenses for slaughter-houses being granted by justices; to appoint medical officers of health and inspectors of nuisances, and to exercise the duties and powers under the Nusiances Removal and Diseases Prevention Act.

10. In 1858 the Metropolitan Board, on being relieved by Parliament from the control of Her Majesty's Chief Commissioner of Works, determined upon a plan of main drainage, comprising a high level, middle level, and low level intercepting main drain for the north side of the Thames, meeting at Abbey Mills on the River Lea, and proceeding from thence to the outfall into the Thames at Barking Creek, and a high level and low level intercepting main drain for the south side of the Thames, meeting at Deptford, and proceeding from thence to the outfall into the Thames at Crossness Point. These works have been since completed, with the exception of the low level drain on the north side of the Thames.

11. The main drainage was, in 1858, estimated to cost somewhat less than three millions sterling, but in consequence of additions to the works and of the rise in the price of materials and labour, their estimated cost was subsequently raised to 4,200,000 *l.* The Board has actually expended 3,583,761 *l.* 9 *s.* 3 *d.* on this work, which, it is satisfied, will be completed within the second estimate of 4,200,000 *l.*

12. The Board was, by the Act of 1858, authorised by Parliament to raise a loan of 3,000,000 *l.* to be guaranteed by the Consolidated Fund, and to levy a rate of 3 *d.* in the pound, for a period of 40 years, to provide for its repayment, but in consequence of the increased cost of the works, the Board was subsequently authorised to raise an additional sum of 1,200,000 *l.*, also to be charged on the rate of 3 *d.* No increase of the rate was deemed necessary, as it appeared that the proceeds of the rate had increased so largely, that not only the 3,000,000 *l.*, but the additional loan of 1,200,000 *l.* would be paid off in less than 38 years. The Board has, up to the present time, borrowed under these powers the sum of 3,600,000 *l.* at 3¾ per cent. interest, and they have already paid off by means of the rate the sum of 800,000 *l.*, leaving 2,800,000 *l.* outstanding. As the works of the Low Level Sewer proceed, they will have to borrow the further sum of 600,000 *l.* to meet the cost of them. But the produce of the rates having continued to increase in a greater ratio since 1862 than before, as will be seen from the account of them in the Appendix, No. 1, now reaches the sum of 181,850 *l.* it is obvious that the entire loan will be paid off, and the ratepayers will be relieved of this tax of 3 *d.* in the pound at a much earlier period than the 40 years for which it was originally imposed.

13. The Board having applied itself to the utilization of the sewage, instead of pouring it into the Thames, entered into a contract in the past year with a joint stock company to take the sewage at Barking Creek, and convey it by a culvert through Essex to the Foulness and Dengie Sands, for the purpose of irrigating the adjacent lands, and applying the surplus to the reclamation of the sea shore. The Company, after providing a preference dividend of 5 per cent. on its capital of 2,000,000 *l.*, is to pay a moiety of its profits to the Metropolitan Board. This undertaking has been sanctioned by Parliament, and steps are being taken to carry it into execution; but your Committee do not deem it expedient to reckon upon the anticipated profits of this undertaking as a source of revenue until the results have been ascertained by experience.

14. With regard to metropolitan improvements, the Board, in accordance with the policy of the Act of 1855, were authorised by an Act passed in 1852 to construct an embankment on the north side of the Thames from Westminster Bridge to the eastern boundary of the Inner Temple, and a viaduct thence to Blackfriars Bridge, with approaches thereto: the estimated cost of this undertaking submitted to Parliament, and on the faith of which it was sanctioned, amounted to one million sterling. But it is due to the Metropolitan Board to state that the undertaking was not designed by them, nor was the Bill introduced with their previous concurrence, or prosecuted through Parliament by them; they are, therefore, neither responsible for the Estimate submitted to Parliament, nor for the introduction of any special provisions into the Bill as passed. Your Committee therefore abstain for the present from any report on these provisions, as they involve important questions which it is not necessary to determine immediately.

15. The Metropolitan Board have proceeded to carry the Act into execution, and have already expended the sum of 632,604 *l.* 17 *s.* 10 *d.*; but they have now come to the conclusion that it will be inexpedient to carry out the approaches in the manner provided by the Act, and that it will be necessary to make other approaches instead, at an additional cost of

of 270,000 *l.*; and they find that with this addition the cost will so greatly exceed the original estimate, that after taking credit for an unexpected sum of 200,000 *l.*, to be paid to them for the use of the embankment by a metropolitan railway company, the actual cost of the whole undertaking will not be less than 1,973,510 *l.*, nearly double the estimate laid before Parliament.

16. In 1863 an Act, promoted by the Metropolitan Board, was passed for the construction of a new street in connection with the embankment from Blackfriars to the Mansion House in the City of London, which was estimated to cost one million sterling. The Board having proceeded to carry this Act into effect, have already expended the sum of 643,175 *l.* 14 *s.* 11 *d.*; but it now appears, from the revised estimates, that after taking credit for the resale of the surplus property which it will be necessary to acquire, the cost will be about 1,299,260 *l.*

17. Another Act, promoted by Her Majesty's Chief Commissioner of Works, was passed in 1864 for the construction by the Metropolitan Board of an embankment on the south side of the Thames from Westminster Bridge, with approaches, at an estimated cost of 480,000 *l.* This work has also been commenced by the Board; but it is now estimated that it will not be completed for less than 909,000 *l.*, or nearly twice the estimated cost.

18. For some years previous to the establishment of the Metropolitan Board of Works, the Corporation of London had been authorised to levy duties to the extent of 1 *s.* 1 *d.* on coals, culm, and cinders brought to any place within the Port of London, or within the Cities of London or Westminster, or the Borough of Southwark, or to any place within the distance of 20 miles from the General Post Office in the City of London, by any railway constructed or thereafter to be constructed, or by inland navigation, or any other means of conveyance; and also a duty of 4 *s.* a tun upon all sorts of wine which should be imported into the Port of London by way of merchandise. The wine duties, and 9 *d.* per ton of the coal duties, had been specifically appropriated by Parliament to the payment of the cost of the approaches to London Bridge and other improvements and public works sanctioned by Parliament for the benefit of the metropolis. The Corporation of London had been allowed to dispose of the remaining duty of 4 *d.* a ton for such purposes as it deemed fit, up to the end of the year 1861, under the circumstances hereinafter stated.

19. But the objects for which the duty of 8 *d.* a ton, and the wine duty, had been levied, having been satisfied in 1861, an Act was then passed by which the coal and wine duties were continued until the 5th of July 1872, but it was provided that the coal dues should only be levied on coal, culm, or cinders brought by vessels into the Port of London to the westward of Gravesend, within the limits of the metropolitan police district, and brought by railway or otherwise within the limits of that district, instead of a radius of 20 miles from the Post Office, subject to a drawback on all coals, culm, and cinders, conveyed out of the limits prescribed for the collection of the duty. The duty of 9 *d.* a ton on coals and the wine duties were directed by the Act to be paid, after satisfying all existing charges thereon, to an account to be opened, in the name of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, at the Bank of England, to be intituled "The Thames Embankment and Metropolitan Improvement Fund." Such fund was to be applied to the improvement of the metropolis, in such manner as might thereafter be determined by Parliament.

20. By the same Act, the duty of 4 *d.* was directed to be applied by the Corporation of London, in the first instance, in payment of the interest, and in discharge of the principal of the following sums raised by the Corporation, and charged by them upon that duty, viz., 300,000 *l.*, 200,000 *l.*, and 40,000 *l.*, for the purpose of improving Cannon-street, and effecting other improvements in the City; and an account of the receipt and application of the duty was to be kept separate and distinct from the accounts of the Corporation, and an abstract of the account was to be annually laid before Parliament; and after discharging the above sums and interest, the duty of 4 *d.* was directed to be applied by the Corporation towards or in aid of such a public improvement or improvements in or adjacent to the City of London, as Parliament should thereafter sanction.

21. By an Act passed in 1863, the coal and wine duties were continued until the 5th of July 1882, and the proceeds were appropriated in the manner provided in the previous Act.

22. The coal duties of 9 *d.* a ton, and the wine duties, have been charged by Parliament with the sum of 2,000,000 *l.* for the embankment on the north side of the Thames and the street in continuation to the Mansion House, and with the sum of 460,000 *l.* for the embankment on the south side of the Thames, making together 2,460,000 *l.*, which the Metropolitan Board is empowered to borrow for these objects. The Board has already borrowed the sum of 800,000 *l.*, and the remaining sum of 1,600,000 *l.* remains to be raised for the purpose of proceeding with the works; but inasmuch as the present estimate for their completion exceeds the original estimate by the sum of 973,510 *l.* for the northern embankment, 299,260 *l.* for the street, and 429,000 *l.* for the southern embankment, making together an excess of 1,701,770 *l.*, it will be necessary for the Board to borrow that amount in addition to the loans of 2,460,000 *l.* already sanctioned, to complete these improvements.

 23. The

Appendix, No. 2.

23. The 9 *d.* coal dues and the wine dues have produced, under the Act of 1861, the following net amounts :—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Surplus of London Bridge Approaches Fund -	137,992	18	1
From 22nd July to the end of 1861 - - -	81,277	1	–
1862 - - - - - - - -	162,222	13	4
1863 - - - - - - - -	175,868	14	9
1864 - - - - - - - -	182,755	–	11
1865 - - - - - - - -	195,677	3	11
TOTAL - - - £.	935,793	12	–

24. The value of these dues, computed at 187,000 *l.* a year on the 25th of September last, for the period already mentioned, interest being allowed at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., was estimated at 2,300,000 *l.*, an amount, with the proceeds already received, more than sufficient to meet the balance of the loans charged thereon.

25. The Metropolitan Board has also carried out other important street improvements under special Acts of Parliament, as follows :

26. An improved thoroughfare from Westminster to London Bridge, called "Southwark-street," at a cost of 596,706 *l.* 19 *s.* 1 *d.*

An approach from Cranbourn-street to Covent Garden, called "Garrick-street," at a cost of 125,446 *l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, and an approach from Poplar to Victoria Park, at a cost of 43,430 *l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

26. The expense of these improvements has been partly defrayed by loans amounting to 442,000*l.* raised by the Board, and charged on the rate for general purposes, levied by it on the metropolis. The residue has been paid out of special funds placed at its disposal for the purposes, as well as by its rate for general purposes.

27. The Board has also undertaken two other street improvements, which have received the sanction of Parliament; one for the construction of a thoroughfare from Whitechapel to the Commercial-road, at an estimated cost of 175,000*l.*, and the other for clearing away Middle-row, Holborn, at an estimated cost of 61,000*l.*

28. The Board has likewise taken steps to fulfil the duty imposed upon it of providing parks for the recreation of the inhabitants of the metropolis, by obtaining an Act for the creation of a park on the north side of Islington, to be called "Finsbury Park," for which the Board has purchased the land at an expense of 59,567 *l.* 10 *s.* 5 *d.*; and another Act for a park in the neighbourhood of Bermondsey, for which the Board has also purchased the land at an expense of 59,271 *l.* 14 *s.* 4 *d.* Of this expenditure 110,000 *l.* has been defrayed by loans raised by the Board and charged upon the rate for general purposes, levied by it on the metropolis, and the rest has been paid out of the annual proceeds of that rate. It is, however, anticipated that the cost of converting the lands purchased into parks will be covered by the sale of some of the surplus land, so that no additional charge will be incurred to complete these undertakings.

29. In addition to the works above enumerated, the Board has covered over and otherwise improved numerous important sewers, upon which the Board will have expended from its institution to the end of 1866 the sum of 380,166 *l.* 5 *s.* 10 *d.*

30. The Board has also contributed several sums annually towards improvements partly of a public and partly of a local character effected by the City of London and the vestries and local Boards in the metropolis, under arrangements entered into with them, for the most part, on the basis of the Board bearing one-third and the local authority two-thirds of the whole expense. These contributions have also been defrayed out of the general purposes rate levied by the Board, and will amount, at the close of this present year, to 87,960 *l.* 19 *s.* 4 *d.*

31. The other expenses of the Board since it was constituted, computed to the end of 1866 to be defrayed out of the general rate, may be enumerated as follows :—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Establishments, including compensation to late officers -	237,839	14	10
Repayment of loans and interest on mortgages, debts of late Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers - -	287,336	17	6
Repayment of loans raised by the Board, and interest -	351,866	3	4
Expenses under the Sale of Gas Acts since 1862 -	13,080	–	–
Expenses under the Houseless Poor Acts for 1865 -	17,000	–	–
Special Parliamentary charges - - - - -	7,313	13	1
Incidental sewage works, and additional contributions to improvements - - - - - - - -	20,000	–	–

32. It appears from the account of this expenditure in detail, printed in the Appendix, No. 2, that the annual outlay of the Metropolitan Board progressively increased from 94,431 *l.* 6 *s.* 11 *d.*

94,431 *l.* 6 *s.* 11 *d.* in 1856 to 148,001 *l.* 6 *s.* 4 *d.* in 1865, whilst the expenditure for the present year is estimated at 178,309 *l.* 13 *s.* 10 *d.*, to which is to be added a further charge of 30,822 *l.* 12 *s.* 3 *d.* for the maintenance of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, and an unascertained sum for the cattle plague. The rateable annual value of the metropolis, on the basis of the assessment for the consolidated rate in the City of London, and for the county rate for the rest of the metropolis, has, however, increased during the same period from 11,283,663 *l.* to 14,524,542 *l.* in the present year; so that a rate of a 1 *d.* in the pound, which in the former year produced only 47,015 *l.* 5 *s.* 3 *d.* now yields the sum of 60,518 *l.* 18 *s.* 6 *d.* Though this has in some measure diminished the burthen of the incidence of the expenditure of the Metropolitan Board on individual ratepayers, it is apparent that the expenditure has increased in a much greater ratio than the assessable value of the metropolis, and the rate levied by the Metropolitan Board for general purposes now exceeds 3 *d.* in the pound in addition to the special rate of the same amount for the main drainage, making a total rate exceeding 6 *d.* in the pound.

33. The Metropolitan Board, however, have introduced into Parliament in the present Session, in addition to the Bill already noticed for improving the approaches to the Thames Embankment, at an additional cost of 270,000 *l.*, other Bills for effecting further improvements:—

1. For an embankment of the Thames at Chelsea, with approaches, at an estimated cost of 203,000 *l.*

2. For the widening of the southern end of Park-lane, at an estimated cost of 105,000 *l.*

3. For the widening of High-street, Kensington, at an estimated cost of 88,000 *l.*

So that the whole improvements contemplated in the present Session would cost the sum of 669,000 *l.* But the Board have declared their inability to defray this estimated expenditure out of their general rate, and they have therefore only proceeded with the Bills conditionally upon Parliament providing them with the requisite funds from some other source.

34. The Chairman of the Metropolitan Board has suggested that the most expedient mode of raising the requisite funds would be to continue the coal and wine dues for a longer period, and to authorise the Board to borrow the amount, to be repaid out of the duty after the present charges thereon have been satisfied. And in case this should not be acceded to, then that the amount should be charged on a rate to be levied on the owners of property in the metropolis. The reasons for his views are fully set forth in his evidence accompanying this Report.

35. But before entering further into this question, it is necessary to notice a representation made to the Committee on behalf of the Corporation of London with respect to the duty of 4 *d.* a ton on coals.

36. The Corporation of London in 1864 obtained the sanction of Parliament to effect the long-desired improvement of raising the thoroughfare over Holborn Valley, with two lateral streets on the northern side of the viaduct, at an estimated net cost of 483,196 *l.* To meet this, the Corporation was empowered to borrow the sum of 600,000 *l.* on the security of the 4 *d.* coal duties. Having proceeded to carry out this improvement, the Corporation now estimates the net cost, owing to the rise in the value of property in the City of London, at 586,000 *l.*, being an addition of 102,814 *l.* The fund already provided by Parliament will still be sufficient to cover this increased expenditure.

37. The Corporation, however, are desirous of undertaking other improvements in the neighbourhood of Holborn Valley, the net estimated cost of which would be 429,000 *l.*; and they are also desirous of having the 4 *d.* Coal Tax continued for such further time as would enable them to raise the additional capital for the purposes on the credit of the dues.

38. It has also been suggested on behalf of the Corporation, that if the present coal dues be suffered to expire the Corporation would claim to levy metage dues for its own benefit; this subject was reported upon as follows by the Committee appointed in 1861 to inquire into the Local Taxation of the Metropolis:—

"With regard to the impost of 4 *d.* a ton, your Committee find that the City exercised the right of appointing coalmeters, for the purpose of weighing or measuring all coal imported into the port of London, or water of Thames, under their conservancy, and that the coalmeters paid to the City an annual sum of 80 *l.* a year each, from the earliest time of which the Corporation have any accounts until the year 1785. This fact was especially brought under the notice of the House of Commons in the year 1692, when the City of London laid before the House a statement of its revenues which, as respects the metage of coal, is as follows:—

"'The City's four coalmeters' places, at 80 *l.* per annum each, 320 *l.*

"'The rent of 10 coalmeters' places, of 80 *l.* per annum for each of them, have, time out of mind, belonged to the Lord Mayor for the time being, for the maintenance of several tables for above 30 officers, bound to constant attendance at the Lord Mayor's house about the affairs of this City; and the said rents were never paid to the Chamber, nor esteemed part of the public revenue of the body corporate.'

Appendix, No. 2.

"The coalmeters received a sum of 4 *d.* a chaldron for measuring the coal, for which they performed that duty, and defrayed its incidental expenses.

"From the year 1785 to the year 1830, the Corporation of London gradually effected the important change of receiving the metage duties itself, and paying certain sums to the coalmeters, instead of receiving from them the fixed annual payment of 80 *l.* a year. The revenue thus obtained by the Corporation in the year 1829, amounted to the sum of 26,559 *l.* 13 *s.* 10 *d.*, subject to the payment of 6,639 *l.* 18 *s.* 5 *d.* to the deputy meters, and 2,860 *l.* 1 *s.* 1 *d.* for charges and expenses of metage, making a deduction of 9,499 *l.* 19 *s.* 6 *d.*, or about 36 per cent. on their receipts, which were thus reduced to the net sum of 15,059 *l.* 18 *s.* 11 *d.* in the year.

"But at that period, the various charges then levied upon coals having engaged the attention of Parliament, an Act was passed in 1831, for a period of seven years, abolishing the system of metage, and providing that the duties on coal should be levied by the ton weight, which was about four-fifths of the chaldron. By another Statute passed in 1845, it was enacted that the duties should be levied within the area defined by a radius of 20 miles from the Post Office. These Acts, with slight modifications, have been continued until the present time.

"The City of London having thus been permitted to receive the duty of 4 *d.* a ton on that basis, the claim to levy 4 *d.* a chaldron, subject to a deduction of 36 per cent., in the Port of London, and river under their conservancy, was converted into a power to receive 4 *d.* on four-fifths of a chaldron, without being subject to any deduction (except some payments for expiring pensions), on all coal brought both by land and by sea, within 20 miles of London. The duty of 4 *d.* by these means, as well as by the growth of population, increased to 74,824 *l.* in the past year. Hence it is apparent that whilst in the year 1785, the City received only 1,120 *l.*, and in the year 1829 the sum of 15,059 *l.* for superintending the discharge of important duties by the coalmeters of London, it now receives 74,824 *l.*, without rendering in return any service whatever in relation to the trade in coal. Your Committee, however, deem it unnecessary to pursue this subject further, as the House has just passed a Bill to appropriate the duty of 4 *d.*, which it has continued for 10 years; first, for the payment of certain debts incurred in effecting public improvements; and, secondly, in aid of future public improvements in and adjacent to the City of London.

"Your Committee also think it unnecessary to report specially on the remaining duties of 8 *d.* and 1 *d.*, as they have also been continued by the same Bill for the further term of 10 years, and have been appropriated for the construction of the Thames Embankment, and for other metropolitan improvements."

39. Your Committee are of opinion that it will be time enough to consider what course Parliament should adopt, on grounds of equity and policy, respecting any claim of the Corporation to metage dues, whenever the exact extent and legal nature of the rights, if any, of the Corporation to levy such dues are ascertained and defined by the decision of a competent court of justice. This claim, therefore, does not affect the question of prolonging the coal and wine duties, levied by statute, beyond the period now prescribed for their continuance.

40. Your Committee cannot but attach great weight to the opinion thus expressed by the representatives of the Metropolitan Board, and the Corporation of the City of London: and although evidence has been given by some witnesses as to the unfair incidence of the tax upon their particular trades, your Committee have no reason to believe that the existence of the coal and wine duties has exercised a prejudicial effect upon any of the industries alleged to suffer by their imposition.

41. It is further, in the judgment of your Committee, no slight recommendation of these duties that they are easily and economically collected, are already allocated by Act of Parliament for a term of 16¼ years to defray the cost of the several improvements above enumerated, and, having enured for a long period of time, do not excite the hostility which a new tax is likely to incur. Your Committee are therefore of opinion that should the works already referred to another Committee be sanctioned by it, the coal and wine duties might beneficially be continued for a further limited period.

42. The Board has, however, in addition to the improvements already noticed, submitted to your Committee a schedule of works deemed by it necessary for the improvement of the metropolis, which would cost several millions sterling; and having regard to the progressively increasing charge on the metropolis for the general purposes of the Board, and to the growing demands of the community for every kind of improvement, not merely to correct all the defects and neglects of centuries in the management of local affairs, but to satisfy the requirements of a daily increasing desire for greater convenience, and even adornment of the metropolis, your Committee are of opinion that the time has arrived when it is necessary to deal with the subject in a comprehensive and permanent manner.

43. The annual rateable value of the metropolis, deduced from the assessments for the consolidated rate in the City of London, and for the county rate on the rest of the metropolis, has increased from 11,283,663 *l.* in 1856 to 14,794,854 *l.* in the present year, of which the details are set forth in the Appendix, No. 2. But as the assessment for the county rate is only revised at intervals of two or more years, it appears that whilst it is generally higher than that for the poor rate, in several parishes in the metropolis it is, in fact, lower; and if the county rate were corrected in these cases, the whole rateable value would

would exceed 15,300,000*l.* Even this cannot be accepted as the true rateable value; for it is the interest of large parishes, which are unions in themselves, to make their rateable value bear as low a proportion as possible to their actual rental, by which their contributions to county and other rates may be influenced; and though in parishes forming unions under the Parochial Assessment Act, the committees of assessment are interested in assessing every parish in the union on a uniform basis, they have a common interest, the same as the large parishes, in keeping the basis as low as possible; and notwithstanding all the property in the metropolis is subject to four separate assessments—for the poor rate, the county rate, the police rate, and the income tax, and houses above 20*l.* to a fifth for the house duty,—there are no means of ascertaining the real rack-rental of property, or of deducing from it a just and full assessment upon a uniform basis. There is reason to believe, if this could be accomplished, the rateable value of several of the parishes would be considerably increased, for it appears that whilst the City of London, for example, is assessed for contribution to the metropolitan rates at 1,666,006*l.*, its rateable value is 1,920,582*l.*, and its estimated rental is above 2,303,664*l.*, as shown in Appendix 8; but your Committee defer any suggestions for this purpose until they have inquired into the local management of the metropolis. They therefore now only deal with the present rateable value, on which the Metropolitan Board is required by law to levy its rates. Appendix, No. 2.

44. The whole charge for the local affairs of the metropolis may be grouped under the following heads:

For the Year 1864:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Rate in the £. s. d.
Charge of the Metropolitan Board Main Drainage	180,262 12 9		
General Purposes and County Rates	163,826 17 2		
	344,089 9 11	344,089 9 11	– 6
Charges for paving, watching, lighting, and other duties of Local Government by the City Authorities, Vestry and District Boards	996,586 11 1	– – –	1 2
		1,240,676 1 –	1 8
Poor Rates, including all Charges collected therewith, except Police Rate	1,212,971 – 9	– – –	1 7
Police Rate	331,204 17 9	– – –	– 6
		1,544,175 18 6	2 1
	£.	2,784,851 19 6	3 9

45. It appears, however, from the table in Appendix No. 6, that whilst the average rate is 3*s.* 9*d.*, the charges of the nature stated in the preceding paragragh on the districts where the most wealthy classes are congregated together is much below the average, as, for example, in the following places:—

	Highest Rateable Value for County or Poor Rate.	Expenditure.	Rate in the £.
	£.	£. s. d.	s. d.
St. George's, Hanover-square	1,076,272	114,764 14 11	2 1
Paddington	758,344	88,594 7 11	2 4
Kensington	590,711	74,438 3 7	2 6
St. Margaret's and St. John's, Westminster	441,673	57,033 17 3	2 7

But in the districts where the working classes, and others who live by their industry, are

Appendix, No. 2.

are congregated, this charge is much above the average, as shown in the following examples:—

	Highest Rateable Value for County or Poor Rate.	Expenditure.	Rate in the £.
	£.	£. s. d.	s. d.
St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark	149,347	50,180 11 –	6 9
Woolwich - - - - - -	83,000	26,773 – –	6 5
Whitechapel District - - -	279,060	76,607 7 2	5 6
Limehouse District - - -	234,608	63,449 4 7	5 5

46. So heavy has the charge of local taxation become in the less wealthy districts, that the Metropolitan Board is of opinion that direct taxation on the occupiers of property there has reached its utmost limits. This is perhaps more felt from the fact, that whilst the burthens which produce inequality are placed upon districts locally, those which have been incurred for the benefit of the more wealthy districts, and which, if they had been also localised, would have tended to redress the inequality, have been made general. The comparative extent of the expenditure which has been and will be incurred for improvements in different parts of the metropolis is shown by the following summary:—

	£.
Thames Embankment, North side, with proposed approaches	1,973,510
Street from Blackfriars to Mansion House - - - -	1,299,260
Garrick Street - - - - - - - - - -	125,446
Middle Row, Holborn - - - - - - - -	61,000
Holborn Valley Viaduct - - - - - - -	586,000
Widening of Hyde Park Lane - - - - - -	105,000
Widening of High Street, Kensington - - - -	88,000
Southwark Street - - - - - - - -	596,706
Victoria Park Approach - - - - - - -	43,430
Whitechapel Street - - - - - - - -	175,000
Finsbury Park - - - - - - - - -	59,567
Southwark Park - - - - - - - -	59,271
Proposed Chelsea Embankment - - - - - -	206,000
Lambeth Embankment - - - - - - -	909,000

47. It is, however, apparent, that if the local taxation of the metropolis were more equal, and the heaviest burthens were not cast on those least able to bear them, and the lightest on those most able, a much greater revenue could be raised from direct taxation; for if the inhabitants of such districts as St. George-the-Martyr or Whitechapel have paid rates ranging from 6*s.* 9*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.* in the pound, it is obvious that the inhabitants of St. George's, Hanover-square, Paddington, Kensington, and St. Margaret's and St. John's, Westminster, could more easily bear rates to the same extent. A rate of 4*s.* in the pound (instead of the existing average rate of 3*s.* 9*d.*) over the metropolis, for all the purposes of local government, would yield an additional revenue of 181,768*l.* It would appear, therefore, that one mode of providing funds for all local purposes would be found in a nearer approach to the equalisation of local burthens on the metropolis; but as this involves not merely the charges imposed by the Metropolitan Board, but the charges for the administration of the Poor Law, it would carry your Committee beyond the scope of their present inquiry.

48. It remains to be considered whether the expenditure of the Metropolitan Board is of such a nature as that it would be just and reasonable to depart from the ordinary practice of imposing local burthens on the occupants of property for the year in which the rate is made. It will be observed from the foregoing account of the proceedings of the Metropolitan Board that nearly the whole of its expenditure and obligations have been incurred for the purpose of supplying wants arising from the defects of former administration of the affairs of the metropolis, and of effecting permanent improvements, which have tended to increase the value of property in the metropolis; that the works undertaken are of such magnitude that the charges for them have been extended by Parliament over many years, and that their effect will be felt long after all the charges have been defrayed; that the whole of this expenditure is of a novel character resulting from special legislation, imposing new and unforeseen burthens. In analogous cases, one moiety of the charge has been imposed upon the occupiers, and the other on the owners of property. Your Committee therefore recommend that in any arrangement of the financial resources of the Metropolitan Board a portion of the charge for permanent improvements and works should

should be borne by the owners of property within the metropolis, the rate being, in the first instance, paid by the occupier, and subsequently deducted from his rent, as is now provided in regard to the general property tax. Your Committee further recommend that whenever improvements or other works undertaken by the Metropolitan Board are of magnitude, and of a permanent character, the charge for them should be defrayed, in the first instance, by loans, to be raised by the Board on the security of its rates; and that the loans should be repaid by equal annual instalments, spread ever a number of years proportionate to their amounts, and that the charge for the first instalment of them should be levied within the year in which the expenditure is commenced.

49. In making these recommendations, your Committee deem it right to add, in conclusion, that in prosecuting their inquiry into the best means of improving the local government of the metropolis, they will not fail to consider the question of conferring upon the owners of property, who have so great an interest in its permanent welfare, the power of being represented in the Metropolitan Board of Works.

16 April 1866.

SECOND REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the LOCAL GOVERNMENT and LOCAL TAXATION of the METROPOLIS;——HAVE taken further Evidence on the Matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following REPORT:—

THE Committee have proceeded with their inquiry since they presented their First Report, but not having been able to conclude the Evidence which they deem it desirable to obtain on the subjects referred to them, they have determined to report the Evidence already taken, and to recommend the re-appointment of the Committee in the next Session of Parliament.

30 *July* 1866.

SECOND

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

METROPOLITAN

LOCAL GOVERNMENT,

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

AND

APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Print*
6 *May* 1867.

[*Price* 6*d.*]

268.

Under 8

THIRD

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
20 *May* 1867.

301.

Tuesday, 12*th February* 1867.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Local Government, and Local Taxation of the Metropolis.

Wednesday, 13*th February* 1867.

Committee nominated,—

Mr. Ayrton.
Mr. Tite.
Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Locke.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Mill.
Mr. Hanbury.
Lord John Manners.
Mr. Beecroft.
Mr. Turner.
Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Kekewich.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Thursday, 21*st February* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the London City Improvement Rates Bill be read a second time, and committed to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government and Local Taxation of the Metropolis.

Tuesday, 5*th March* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c. (1866), be referred to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c.

Thursday, 7*th March* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report their Opinion to The House.

Thursday, 28*th March* 1867.

Ordered, That the Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the existing state of Municipal Corporations in England and Wales, on the City of London [presented 24th April 1837];—and, Copy of Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the existing state of the Corporation of the City of London, together with the Minutes of Evidence [presented 11th May 1854], be referred to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Local Government, &c.

Monday, 6*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report their Opinion and Observations from time to time to The House.

Monday, 20*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report the Minutes of Evidence taken before them to The House.

THIRD REPORT - - - - - - - - - - - p. iii
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE - - - - - p. iv
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - - p. 1
APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 15

THIRD REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the LOCAL GOVERNMENT and LOCAL TAXATION of the METROPOLIS :—

HAVE further considered the matters to them referred, and have agreed to report the MINUTES of EVIDENCE taken before them to The House, together with an APPENDIX.

20 *May* 1867.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Monday, 20th May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. AYRTON in the Chair.

Mr. Kekewich.	Mr. Turner.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Sir W. Galwey.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Bazley.	

The Committee considered the Papers in the Appendix.—Motion made, and Question, "That it is expedient that the Reports of 1861 and 1866, mentioned in their Report, be printed therewith"—(The *Chairman*)—put, and *agreed to.*

Ordered to Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Appendix.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

Tuesday, 5*th March* 1867.

	PAGE
Mr. Thomas Henry Fry	1
Mr. William Taylor Haywood	5

Wednesday, 6*th March* 1867.

Benjamin Scott, Esq.	15
Mr. John Thomas Bedford	25

Thursday, 28*th March* 1867.

William Corrie, Esq.	29
Benjamin Scott, Esq.	45

Monday, 1*st April* 1867.

Samuel Robert Goodman, Esq.	52
Mr. James Medwin	54
Benjamin Scott, Esq.	68
Mr. William Rendle	72

Thursday, 4*th April* 1867.

Mr. William Rendle	74
Mr. Henry De Jersey	77
Sir John Thwaites, Knight	79

Monday, 8*th April* 1867.

Henry Letheby, Esq., M.B.	95
Mr. Alderman Sydney Hedley Waterlow	101
Mr. William Haywood	104
Mr. John Francis Bontems	112

Thursday, 11*th April* 1867.

Mr. Thomas Rudkin	119
William Corrie, Esq.	120
Mr. John Thomas Bedford	128
Benjamin Scott, Esq.	131
Mr. John Jones	139

Tuesday, 30*th April* 1867.

Sir Richard Mayne, K.C.B.	141
Benjamin Scott, Esq.	150

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

LONDON CITY IMPROVEMENT RATES BILL.

Tuesday, 5th March 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Bentinck.	Lord John Manners.
Sir William Gallwey.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., in the Chair.

The Petition for the Bill was read.

Mr. *Davison*, Q. C., and Mr. *Sargood*, appeared for the Bill.
Messrs. *Dyson, Parkes, Coates & Shrubsole*, appeared as Agents.

The Petition of the Metropolitan Board of Works, against the Bill, was read.

Mr. *Burke*, Q. C., and Mr. *Wilkinson*, appeared as Counsel in support of the Petition.
Mr. *Parkes* appeared as Agent.

The Petition of the London Gas-Light and Coke Company, against the Bill (on Clauses only), was read.

No Counsel appeared in support of the Petition.

Messrs. *Paine & Layton* appeared as Agents.

After some discussion,—
Mr. *Davison* was heard to open the case for the London City Improvement Rates Bill.

Mr. Thomas Henry Fry, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Sargood*.

Mr. *T. H. Fry*. 5 March 1867.

1. I believe you are the Chairman of what is termed the Improvement Committee of the Corporation of London, are you not?—I am.

2. And I think that you have special charge of the large improvements that are making under the Act, which is called "The Holborn Valley Improvement Act of 1864"?—Yes.

3. With regard to the coal duty which has been mentioned to-day, and which at one time I think was 13 *d.*, I believe the City were the recipients of the whole of that duty at one time?—Yes.

4. And was that, according to uniform custom, applied towards improvements of the corporate property?—Yes.

5. One penny of that is gone, and 8 *d.* we hear is now rather under the direction of the Metropolitan Board of Works, leaving you the odd 4 *d.*?—Yes.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee had before them the evidence which was taken last year, and that it was therefore only necessary to supplement that by any new matter which the promoters of the Bill might think it desirable to bring forward.

6. Mr. *Sargood* (to the *Witness*).] I believe the 4 *d.* now is the only remaining portion of the coal dues which you have applicable for the purposes of improvements?—Yes.

7. Then at this moment is that sufficient for the purposes of the Corporation, having regard even to the improvements which are now going on?—Very far from it.

8. You apply that answer now, probably, particularly to the question of the Holborn Valley Improvement?—Yes.

9. So far as they are contained in the Act of 1864,

Mr. *T. H. Fry.*

5 March 1867.

1864, which is at present the law, will funds which you have raised, or can raise upon the 4 *d.* coal duty, be sufficient for the purposes of that Act?—Very far from it indeed.

10. Are you prepared to give us any figures which will show to what extent you would probably require to supplement that coal duty by some new accession of rates?—I am. I will speak first of all with regard to works already sanctioned by Parliament, so as to keep those distinct. Claims settled and partly paid amount to 800,000 *l.*; claims not yet settled in respect of the Holborn Valley works, already authorised by Parliament, 222,000 *l.*; notices served and claims not sent in are estimated at 300,000 *l.*; and notices not yet served, and therefore claims not yet sent in, amount to 250,000 *l.*; those two items making 550,000 *l.*, making the total cost of land and the estimates of compensations not already settled, 1,572,000 *l.*; to which we have to add for estimated costs, the interest of the money, taxes, rates, and various expenses, 150,000 *l.*; that is, 10 per cent. I should say that the Chamberlain, from his experience, has found that it generally takes about 10 per cent. upon the estimate, with regard to the various costs, law charges, taxes, and rates which we have to pay, with the interest of the money; that comes to 150,000 *l.*, making a total of 1,722,000 *l.* That has exclusive reference to the acquisition of the land, and the compensation which we have to pay to parties who allege damage.

11. Mr. *Locke.*] What is the original estimate?—£. 1,356,000 *l.* was the gross estimate, but I have not quite finished with the gross estimate here.

12. Mr. *Sargood.*] Now, then, we will go to the works which you propose to put on the property when acquired?—We have taken the contract for the viaduct, amounting to 99,837 *l.*; that was without the bridge, and the estimate for the bridge is 29,000 *l.*, which makes a total for works of 128,837 *l.*, which gives a grand total of 1,870,837 *l.*

13. I think you have not included the side streets, have you?—I have not that here.

14. It will not add up to 1,870,837 *l.* without it?—Yes, that is so; that would be 20,000 *l.*

15. Then you deduct from that, I suppose, your estimated returns from the sale of land, and so forth?—Yes.

16. How much is that?—£. 880,000 *l.*, which leaves 990,837 *l.*

17. And that, you think, would represent about the total outlay on the works and the purchase of land; and, in fact, the net cost of the improvements?—The net cost of the works already sanctioned by Parliament. We have Parliamentary powers to borrow 600,000 *l.*, which leaves a deficiency of 390,837 *l.*

18. Mr. *Tite.*] Will you state what is the estimate for that 990,000 *l.*?—I may say that, so far as the acquisition of the land and the works are concerned, we have an experience of 800,000 *l.* and the other estimates of claims not yet settled.

19. I am referring to the original sum estimated when you went to Parliament to obtain powers; what was the total net cost then?—£. 586,000.

20. The 600,000 *l.*, then, would have amply covered that?—It would have covered that; I may say that we are now applying to Parliament for additional powers for additional works, and the result, as far as I have the figures here, is that we have a deficiency of 390,837 *l.* on the works in hand.

21. *Chairman.*] How do you mean that there is a deficiency; do you mean after you have credited the whole amount of the coal tax which you are authorised by law to levy up to the time of its termination in 1882?—Yes; we have only powers to borrow 600,000 *l.*

22. How much money have you actually received from the coal tax applicable to those works?—I cannot answer that; that will come from the Chamberlain. I speak only of our borrowing powers.

23. Mr. *Sargood.*] In addition to that, are there not expenses connected with additional streets which you contemplate now by the new Bill, which is before Parliament this year?—I thought the honourable Chairman wished me to confine my attention to works already sanctioned by Parliament; I have already stated the figures with regard to these works.

24. Before we go to new contemplated works, we will just carry out the idea a little further. You have shown us a positive deficiency after acquiring the 600,000 *l.*, which is all you have a right to at the present moment?—Yes.

25. Supposing the coal duties should be extended for a further period of years, as has been hinted at, say for six years, would that be a sufficient assistance to you even if it were done?—It would not.

26. What would be the effect of that?—The Chamberlain's estimate of the reversionary value of the coal dues for six years after 1882 amounts to 283,000 *l.*

27. Is that what he thinks you would raise upon them at the present time, assuming they were ultimately granted for six years?—Yes.

28. That would still leave you a deficiency of about 110,000 *l.*, would it not?—That would still leave a deficiency of about 110,000 *l.*

29. And that, I understand you, applies only to the completion of the works which are positively in progress under the authority of the Bill of 1864?—Just so.

30. So far as we may venture to speak of the things *in futuro*, you have a Bill before Parliament in the present Session for extending your works in the Holborn Valley Improvement, and which is limited to that?—We have.

31. I believe that is practically necessary, in your judgment, for the completion of those works?—Quite so.

32. What is the estimate upon that Bill of the further expense which it would be necessary to incur?—That includes an access from the south, on the western side, from the low level to the high level, and the widening of Newgate-street, taking Shoe-lane under the viaduct, instead of on to the viaduct, and a new street at the back of St. Andrew's Church, taking the street on to Bartlett's-buildings. Mr. Haywood will explain it more in detail. It is a diagonal to come down from the low level to the high level, and then there is a widening of Newgate-street, on the ground that it was not very seemly to bring a viaduct 80 feet wide into Newgate-street, which is only 50 feet wide; and, therefore, we thought it desirable to widen the western end of Newgate-sireet, inasmuch as the eastern end is widened already.

33. You would propose to carry the frontage back as far as the frontage of Christ's Hospital, on the northern side?—Yes, on the northern side at

at the western end. The estimate of the net cost of these improvements would be 349,995 *l*, or, in round numbers, 350,000 *l*.

34. Then, if your coal dues were carried on for six years, you would still be some 450,000 *l*. in need?—Yes; that is with an extension of six years from 1882.

35. But supposing that you were not fortunate enough to get that extension, you would want something like 750,000 *l*., would you not?—Very nearly that.

36. I believe that there are always improvements of one description or another going on, although I have confined you to the Holborn Valley, because it is a very important, extensive, and expensive one?—There are many improvements which are imperatively called for at the present moment, as anyone who is acquainted with the City of London must know. We should very much like to improve the City in many respects if we only had the funds.

37. I believe that there is an access to the Bank of England called the Poultry, which would be very much improved by widening?—Very much indeed; and, in fact, the Commissioners of Sewers have made themselves liable for an expenditure of 42,000 *l*. or 43,000 *l*. for a small piece of frontage, which it was thought absolutely necessary should be taken at the present time; but the value of property in the City, as everyone knows, is very extraordinary at the present time.

38. That would be rather an expensive experiment, if it were made?—It would.

39. But still you think that the citizens would be ready to pay for it without throwing it upon the Metropolis?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Burke.*

40. Can you tell when you have exercised any compulsory powers under the Act of Geo. 3?—I am not competent to answer that question. My works are under a particular Act of Parliament.

41. The Board of Works have distinctly a power, have they not, of executing improvements in the City of London?—I am not aware of it, except the new street at the Mansion House; I believe that is the only street. That is a specific street authorised by Parliament, and for which Parliament provided the necessary funds.

42. But have they not the power to raise any rates, and to execute improvements in the City of London?—They have never done so.

43. Is not the City of London included within the metropolitan area confided to the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I believe it was at the time of the establishment of the Board of Works.

44. If it was so, that is the law, is it not, that the whole of the City of London forms part and parcel of the metropolitan area over which the Board of Works exercise control?—I really do not know the provisions of the Act.

45. Have the Board of Works ever contributed any money towards improvements in the City of London?—Yes; from monies paid to them first of all by the City.

46. How did they come to be paid to them by the City?—They have power to make a call.

47. And a rate?—No, I think the Sewers make a rate; but I am not on the Commission of Sewers, and therefore I do not know. They make a call for a certain sum, and they get it.

48. Is it a compulsory call upon you?—Yes.

49. For improvements in the City?—No; those calls are not made definitely for improvements in the City.

50. Is it, or is it not, within your knowledge that the Metropolitan Board of Works have contributed out of the general rates of the whole Metropolis to improvements within the City of London?—Yes.

51. And that, I presume, under Acts of Parliament giving them power and jurisdiction to that effect?—I suppose so.

52. *Per contra*, have they not called upon the City of London to contribute to improvements outside the City?—Not specifically. They have called upon us to pay certain sums, and it has been left to the discretion of the Board to apply those sums as they thought proper.

53. You mean that they could call upon you to contribute any sums that they thought fit without specifying the works?—Yes.

54. And to apply them, as in their judgment they thought fit, in or out of the City?—Yes.

55. Then they have the power by Act of Parliament of contributing funds levied outside the City towards improvements in the City, and at the same time of calling upon the City to contribute funds for works to be executed outside the City?—I could not answer the question in that shape.

56. I want to know from you, as an authority upon that subject, whether that has not been the course of proceeding?—I said that they called upon the City for payment of money out of a general fund, out of which fund they have the power to apply those monies as in their judgment they think best.

57. Either outside the City or inside the City?—Yes.

58. Then they plainly do exercise an authority for the purpose of levying rates for improvements inside and outside the City?—The answer to that is that they do not levy rates.

59. They get the money, do they not?—They get the money.

60. Practically, we come to the fact that the money comes. They send to you a precept, and you are compelled to get that by the rates which you have the power to levy upon the inhabitants?—Yes.

61. Supposing that the Board of Works thought any improvement in the City to be necessary, have they, or have they not, the power to carry that improvement into effect?—They have never done so.

62. That is not my question?—I do not know.

63. I ask you whether, under the powers conceded to them by Parliament, they have not distinctly a right, if they think fit, to say that an improvement shall be made in the City?—I do not know.

64. We know that they would go to Parliament for that compulsory power?—Yes.

65. You have now a power of levying a 1*s*. 6*d*. rate for improvement purposes, have you not?—I would rather that you should get that information from some other person, because I am not one of the Commissioners of Sewers.

66. Then you cannot tell me what the total annual amount of that rate is?—I cannot. That rate is not levied exclusively for improvements; it is levied for various purposes: lighting, paving, cleansing, and a variety of other things.

67. You cannot tell me the amount?—No.

Mr. *T. H. Fry.*

5 March 1867.

68. Can you tell me the amount of money borrowed upon that?—I cannot.

69. Nor whether it is exhausted?—I cannot tell you anything about it.

70. Is it an increasing amount?—The property in the City of course increases in value.

71. Is it not the fact that property in the City increases largely in value, and with it the revenue arising from the 1*s.* 6*d.* rate?—Yes.

72. Can you give me at all the rate of increase within the last few years?—I cannot give you the details at all; I am not one of the Commissioners of Sewers.

73. You have a Bill before Parliament now, have you not, to enable you to extend the works in connection with the Holborn Viaduct?—Yes.

74. Do you take no powers in that Bill to raise money?—No; it is not usual, I believe, in a Bill; I believe that that Bill is merely to apply the money.

75. Under the 20th section, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons may from time to time borrow on the interest of the coal duty a sum of 500,000*l.*?—That is borrowing money.

76. That is to be borrowed on the 4*d.* coal duty?—That is to be borrowed on the 4*d.* coal duty, supposing we get the extension of six years.

77. There is nothing in this Act about that, is there?—That is quite understood, because we cannot borrow money without some authority.

78. Can you tell me what the coal duty produces?—I cannot tell you what the coal duties produce.

79. Is it mortgaged to the full extent that it will bear?—Certainly, because we have raised up to the present time 600,000*l.*, which is quite as much as we could raise under Parliamentary powers.

80. But is the revenue derivable from the coal tax adequate to allow of a still greater sum of money being borrowed upon it?—No; it is the estimate of the Chamberlain, and the Chamberlain can give you better information upon the subject if you wish to go more into detail. I cannot tell you what it exactly produces.

81. Is that 4*d.* coal tax an increasing sum?—Yes, I believe it is.

82. Do you consult the Board of Works at all with regard to any streets and accesses which you propose to make within the City?—No, we do not.

83. The Board of Works are themselves constructing that important street in the City called the Mansion House-street, are they not?—Yes.

84. Do you, then, claim the power to construct any streets that you think fit in connection with that or anywhere else you like?—If we thought a street were desirable, and we had the funds, we should apply to Parliament for powers, certainly.

85. Without any communication with the Board of Works?—Yes.

86. So that if the Board of Works thought that any streets might have a beneficial effect upon the Metropolis, you might lay out a totally different street in a different direction, if you thought proper to do so?—If they applied to Parliament, and Parliament gave them funds, they might do so.

87. You claim a distinct power for the City improvements, irrespective of all the powers that they may exercise?—We do.

88. Supposing that the Board of Works came to Parliament to execute any other street, they must of course raise the money for that, probably by a rate as you propose here?—I do not know what they would do.

89. If you rated the whole of the City of London at an additional 6*d.* at this moment, of course there would be great unwillingness on the part of the ratepayers to submit to any improvements to be promoted by the Board of Works?—I am not prepared to say.

90. A 2*s.* rate is a considerable sum, is it not?—It is.

91. Of course there would be a great disinclination on the part of the City to submit to any further rates levied by the Metropolitan Board?—I cannot say. Persons, generally speaking, do not like too much taxation.

92. Do you not think that if Parliament passed this Bill, authorising an additional 6*d.* rate, if the Metropolitan Board hereafter contemplated improvements in connection with the Mansion House or elsewhere, it would involve opposition on the part of the ratepayers?—We apply for powers to raise a 6*d.* rate on the owners of property. We believe that the owners of property at the present time are not taxed as they ought to be, and we want to relieve the occupier to some extent, and place a little greater burden on the owners.

93. But it is an additional tax to the 1*s.* 6*d.* which is now levied upon property, is it not?—It is a permissive power; we are not compelled to levy 6*d.*

94. But you come here to justify the 6*d.* tax, because you want the 6*d.* tax?—We should want the right to levy the 6*d.* tax.

95. You want a roving power, in fact?—To that extent.

Re-examined by Mr. *Sargood.*

96. You do not ask for any roving power to make improvements, do you?—No.

97. All you ask is the liberty of taxing the owners for City improvements, instead of taxing the occupiers?—Yes.

98. The occupier is the person who pays the 1*s.* 6*d.*, I suppose, at present?—Yes.

99. The additional 6*d.* is perhaps hardly to be called additional, because you propose to put it on somebody else?—It will not be additional to the occupiers of property; we propose to put it upon the owners.

100. Mr. *Tite.*] You do not propose that it should be half and half?—No; our Bill is not so.

101. Mr. *Sargood.*] You have been asked as to the Board of Works getting money from the City; you are not familiar personally with the process; it is not in your department, is it?—No.

102. But probably you can tell us, as taking an active interest in City improvements, having regard to the sum that the Board of Works get from the City, do they spend as much within the limits of the City as they get from the City?—I should say not.

103. So that, practically, the City contributes towards metropolitan improvements?—Yes.

104. You do not get much from the Metropolis towards City improvements?—No, because we do not get the money back that we ourselves pay. We say that the City is willing to pay for its own improvements if Parliament will only allow us to do so; and we also say that inasmuch as we are a municipality, existing long before the

Mr. *T. H. Fry.*

5 March 1867.

the Board of Works was established, with a machinery which has been in existence for years and years, and with a large staff of officers, and inasmuch as we have executed works, as is well known, during a long period, the City says, fairly I think, "Leave us to execute these works ourselves, with our own staff, and our own machinery, and the City of London will raise the funds."

105. Mr. *Tite.*] As you have the machinery of which you speak, and all the conveniences for managing these improvements, can you tell the Committee why it is that that which you estimated three years ago at 586,000 *l.* is now to cost 990,000 *l.*?—The enormous increase in the value of property, and the enormous sums that we have had to pay as compensation for buying persons out, as it is called, or as compensation for damage sustained by removal, have produced the difference, and I need not tell the Committee that those two circumstances put together have made, and will make an enormous difference.

106. But was not the increasing value of City property understood or recognised or known at the time this estimate was made?—That was in the year 1863. I believe the gentlemen who formed the estimate at that time for Parliament had not the slightest conception of what the sum would be that we should have to pay; these figures are based upon what we have really had to pay.

107. You have given us the result; I suppose somebody is disappointed at the circumstances which have left you in the dilemma in which you are placed?—Yes.

108. Mr. *Bentinck.*] I understood you to state that the estimate for the access for the south western improvements was to cost 350,000 *l*?—Yes.

109. Has that estimate been made by the same surveyors who made the previous estimate of 1864?—Yes; upon the experience which has been gained.

110. And you believe that estimate to be a correct one, and that it will not cost 700,000 *l.*?—No; I believe that this estimate is based on experience, which I may say has been dearly bought.

111. *Chairman.*] What is the street that comes under the 349,000 *l.*?—It is the street from the south on the western side of Farringdon-street, from the low level to the high level, taking it from Farringdon-street up to Bartlett's-Buildings in Holborn, and the widening of Newgate-street.

112. Mr. *Bentinck.*] It runs in a south-westerly direction, across Shoe-lane, does it not?—Yes, it does.

113. Mr. *Locke.*] What per-centage in your compensations has been awarded by arbitrations or by jury?—I am not prepared to answer that question.

114. You generally publish your accounts, do you not?—Yes.

115. Perhaps you would furnish the Committee with the per-centage of compensations up to the present time, either by agreement, or by jury, or by arbitration?—I will do so.

116. It generally used to be, I think, about 5 per cent?—I am sorry to say we are compelled to try more by jurors now than formerly.

[The Witness withdrew.

Mr. William Taylor Haywood, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Davison.*

Mr. *W. T. Haywood.*

117. You have been examined already, I think, before this Committee?—I have not.

118. Are you Surveyor to the Commissioners of Sewers?—I am.

119. And I believe that you have been so for the last 20 years?—For 20 or 21 years.

120. The Commissioners of Sewers are appointed by the Corporation of London, are they not?—Yes, they are appointed by the Corporation, and the body is formed exclusively of members of the Corporation, with the exception of the Recorder and the Common Serjeant, who are also *ex officio* members of the Commission.

121. And they assume to act under 57 Geo. 3?—Yes; they have the power of effecting improvements in the public ways in the City of London under that Act.

122. *Chairman.*] Under what Act are the Commissioners appointed?—They were first appointed about 40 years ago. They are now appointed under an Act of 1848 or 1851.

123. Mr. *Davison.*] For a great number of years have the whole of the improvements carried out by the Commission been under your charge? Yes, the whole of the improvements carried out by the Commission have been negociated and carried out by me.

124. The cleansing the sewerage, the paving, and so on?—Yes; upon the whole of the matters connected with improvements, I have been their professional adviser for 20 or 21 years.

125. I believe that you have given very great attention to the traffic of London and the means of dealing with it?—Yes, necessarily so, holding that appointment and having charge of the highways.

126. I believe that you have recently made a report to the Improvement Committee of the Corporation upon the traffic of the City and the improvements which are now needed or which will be needed shortly?—Yes; that report is now in the hands of the committee, and will shortly, I believe, be printed by the committee.

127. Have the Commissioners done much for the City during your time?—Yes, they have done a very great deal, considering the limited amount of funds which they have at their disposal for the purposes of Metropolitan improvements; and they are enabled, owing to the prompt action which they can take upon emergencies, to do a great deal more with the same amount of money than any public body could do if they had not exactly the same powers.

128. My learned friend, Mr. Burke, asked the last gentleman who was examined, this question, but he could not answer it as a matter of fact; have the Commissioners put in force, for purposes within your knowledge, those compulsory powers to which we have referred in Michael Angelo Taylor's Act?—Very extensively indeed; and upon more than one occasion their right to exercise those powers has been disputed, but it has always been determined that they have the right to exercise those powers.

129. By courts of law?—By courts of law.

130. And they have exercised them, and do so at the present time?—Yes, they do; I find, by looking through my notes, which I did last night,

Mr. *W. T. Haywood.*

5 March 1867.

that since the year 1851 they have effected improvements in as many as 94 of the streets and places within the City; now there are, in round numbers, about 50 miles of public way of all classes in the City, and about 1,000 distinct streets and places; therefore, in one-tenth of the whole, or thereabouts, they have effected improvements, some small and some large; and, as I said before, they decide upon those improvements under circumstances which make the money go further than it possibly could if they could only exercise their power upon houses after they had given notice of their intention to take the houses, so that the money has gone a very long way.

131. That is the Act to which you alluded when you said that those powers were economical?—Yes. I will tell you what is the custom of the Commissioners. They have weekly reports from the inspectors of pavements, as to every house on which a license is taken out for a hoarding or scaffold, or directly it is burnt down, or directly notice is served upon it by the district surveyor, or directly an application is made for a shop front, or directly there are indications of works contemplated at the various premises. Immediately they are aware of that, they direct me to see if improvements can be effected, and at once to begin the negociations for effecting them, if they think them desirable or within their means. The consequence is, that in the largest number of cases, excepting in the main lines of street, to which I shall presently allude, they have effected the improvements at those periods when houses have been destroyed by fire, or when they have been about to be rebuilt, or when large alterations have been about to be made, avoiding in the largest number of cases claims of compensation for loss of trade, and the expenses which are incidental to carrying out improvements, without the power which they possess under Michael Angelo Taylor's Act, 57 Geo. 3.

132. Mr. *Tite.*] Chancery-lane is one of your improvements, is it not?—Chancery-lane, so far as it exists in the City, has been widened by the Commissioners, and Newgate-street and Fetter-lane have been widened also. Altogether, 94 different places of that character have been improved.

133. Has that been done out of the ordinary rates?—Out of the consolidated rates.

134. Mr. *Loche.*] Do you mean Chancery-lane at the Fleet-street end?—All that is in the City; but the northern end is not within the City. The opportunity arose, but unfortunately it was not seized by the Board, who had the control of it.

135. Mr. *Tite.*] There was no body to act at that time, was there?—There was a body to act which had similar powers to those which the City have, but they were practically inoperative.

136. What was that body?—The vestry for the time being. The Act of 57 Geo. 3, has, with the exception of places within the City, been rarely exercised within the Metropolis, so far as I know of my own personal knowledge.

137. Mr. *Davison.*] However, your body of Commissioners keep it up pretty smartly, and are always on the look-out to see whether, within their means, they can effect any improvement which appears desirable?—Yes, and sometimes beyond our means. I believe that at this time we owe about 100,000 *l.*, and we have nothing to pay it with, except by mortgage of the rates.

138. Have they laid down and widened, and otherwise improved, many of the thoroughfares?—Yes. Of course it is pretty well known that there is scarcely a single street in the City which does not want making double its present width, and that applies to some places which are merely thoroughfares for pedestrians; but they have laid down lines for improvement at the narrowest points in the City, and amongst those are the eastern end of Leadenhall-street, extending from St. Mary Axe to Aldgate; the eastern end of Fenchurch-street, extending from Billiter-street to Aldgate; the western end of Fenchurch-street, the eastern end of Lombard-street; the eastern end of Tower-street; the whole line of Seething-lane; the whole line of Thames-street, Gracechurch-street, Basinghall-street, Mansion House-street, and the Poultry; Ludgate-hill, Newgate-street, and a portion of Fleet-street, although that is completed. But in addition to that they have lines of improvement laid down with a view of taking off the projections upon a large number of thoroughfares of lesser importance, where there is any probability of means enabling them to carry them out as opportunities present themselves.

139. Are most of these things very desirable improvements indeed, not only for the City itself, but for everyone who has occasion to go there?—I think there can be no doubt of it. Nearly every one of the streets which I have named, are in a state of congestion as to their traffic during two-thirds of the day.

140. Of course, you must be very long indeed before you can do a tithe of that which you have laid down to do, going on at the present rate?—So long that practically it will never be done in the present generation, or indeed in the next generation, as the cost of improvements has increased so enormously within the last few years in the City.

141. If you had the power of levying a rate, as proposed in the Bill, it would not be enough to do that which you would desire to do, but of course it would help you to some considerable extent after you have finished your Holborn Valley Improvement?—Yes, it would go some distance towards it; it would not go too far.

142. With the funds which you have in hand at present, you are not able to do more than you are doing now from time to time; in fact, you are in debt?—Yes, we are in debt to the extent of something like 100,000 *l.*

143. Mr. *Tite.*] What is the total amount of the rate?—In round numbers the present value of the property assessed to the Consolidated Rate of the City, is 1,500,000 *l.*

144. And the rate itself is how much?—The maximum rate (and we are at our maximum rate at present), is 1 *s.* 6 *d.* in the pound, and that gives 112,500 *l.* annually.

145. *Chairman.*] Is that in addition to the 4 *d.* sewers' rate?—Yes, the whole of the funds raised by the sewers' rate being expended simply upon matters connected with the sewerage of the City; that 112,000 *l.* is expended in a large variety of ways. The Commissioners of Sewers have a larger variety of functions than most bodies; their funds go partly towards administering the Gas Act. It has a staff of officers for supervising the markets and condemning meat which is unfit for food. The primary duties, of course, of the Commission under its Act, were the paving, lighting, and cleansing; and these improvements, and a great mass of expenditure is incurred under those heads. It also has power

over dangerous structures, and it has also, under the consolidated rate, funds to lay out for the burial arrangements of the City; it is the burial board of the City. It has, in fact, the whole of those functions in the City which affect the health or comfort of the population; and as the cost of paving, cleansing, and gas lighting, and everything else has largely increased of late years; though they have increased funds, owing to the increase in the value of property in the City, the increase of their funds have not been commensurate with the increase of their expenditure under those heads, and I am afraid that unless other funds are found for these improvements in the City, they will come very much to a standstill.

146. Mr. *Davison.*] You have already mentioned several improvements; I believe there are several other improvements that you could mention?—Those are very important improvements, and they are improvements that should be first done; but even they will not supersede the necessity for improvements upon a far greater and more extensive scale than merely the widening of streets. There are both new streets and new bridges wanted in the Metropolis and for the relief of the City, even although they may have to be executed outside the City.

147. As to London Bridge, there are, no doubt, great difficulties to contend with?—It has been a difficulty for the last 10 years, and nothing can prevent its being a difficulty, except building another bridge, and for this simple and intelligible reason; if you draw a line three or four miles to the north of London Bridge, and another to the south, you will find that one-third of the whole population of the Metropolis lives to the east of the bridge, and therefore it is quite manifest that no accommodation made to the west of London Bridge will materially relieve that bridge. There has been a new street opened, and there have been two or three railway extensions, by which all the traffic which formerly passed through the City on its way to other points of the Metropolis has been taken off, but still the traffic goes on increasing; it is a little depressed at every new improvement to relieve it, but nevertheless it goes on increasing, and about three years ago, just before Southwark Bridge was opened, with all these improvements there was a greater vehicular traffic over it in the busy hours of the day than there ever had been previously. That affects the whole line of the City streets, and the streets to the south of the bridge, beginning at St. George's Church, in the Borough, and terminating at Norton Folgate. In the whole of the approaches to the bridge, and on the bridge itself, during the largest portion of the day, 3½ miles an hour is the maximum rate of progress for vehicles, and it is likely to get worse, for this reason: that the population of those districts is spreading more rapidly than in any other portion of the Metropolis. Low down the river lies a large portion of the east of London, and lower down the river enormous establishments are springing up every day, and no doubt the homes of a large portion of the industrial population will be found there, while on the other side of the river the humbler members of the commercial community reside almost exclusively. Rotherhithe, Camberwell, Peckham, and all that district, are occupied almost exclusively by clerks in commercial houses; while on the east are the dwellings of the mechanics and artisans of the Metropolis. I have very little doubt that at the next Census, instead of one-third of the whole population being to the east of London Bridge, as was the case in 1861, a very largely increased proportion will be found to be living to the east of London Bridge. For that reason I come to the conclusion that nothing can effectually relieve London Bridge but a new bridge lower down the river. It is an error to put another bridge close to London Bridge. The great aim in improvements in a town should be to diffuse the traffic, and not to concentrate it.

148. *Chairman.*] Would you have the power, under your Act, to build a bridge below London Bridge?—No; there must be a special Act for that.

The *Chairman* stated that this matter was not within the purview of the present inquiry.

149. Mr. *Davison.*] You and Mr. Shaw, I think, were the gentlemen who prepared the estimates on which the Holborn Valley Improvements were undertaken?—We did.

150. You have had large experience yourself, and, I believe, Mr. Shaw also?—I have had very large experience in the value of City property, and Mr. Shaw has had almost the largest experience in London in the value of City property.

151. You heard the questions which were put to Mr. Fry about the difference between the sums at which the works were estimated, in 1863, and the amount which they have actually cost; is his explanation the true one?—Yes. I must add that that estimate, which was put in by Mr. Deputy Fry, was not prepared by me. I made the original estimates, but I have not been engaged in purchasing that property.

152. I was asking whether you agreed with him, as to the actual cost being so much greater than the estimate of 1863, on account of the City property having increased so largely in value?—Yes; the increase in the value of Metropolitan property generally has been very large within the last three or four years, but specially so within the City, and the compensations which are now awarded by juries are simply enormous.

153. You had a good many verdicts, in connection with the Holborn Valley Improvement, had you not?—Yes. There is no doubt that the compensations awarded by juries are driving public boards (and there is not the remotest doubt that the Metropolitan Board of Works finds it just as much as the City) to make terms eminently advantageous to owners and possessors of property sooner than have recourse to a jury if they can possibly avoid it. There is no doubt that if properties are scheduled now for public improvements, and if any period of time elapses between the scheduling and the purchase, the increase in value, in a way which is perfectly surprising to those surveyors who were previously acquainted with their value, until probably the most experienced surveyors scarcely know how in the present day to put a value upon property, provided that property is likely to be scheduled. We can put a value upon property if we have the letting ourselves, but if other persons have the letting of property, and we have to buy it, it is different. I have heard of cases of property, which three years ago was let at 100 *l.* a year, having in the period which intervened between the first letting and the purchase, gone up to 300 *l.* a year, which was a very extraordinary thing.

154. Mr. *Tite.*] Is that true?—I believe that

Mr. *W. T. Haywood.*

5 March 1867.

to be true; but I have had, in my own experience, houses which were known to be upon the the lines of improvement which have increased in value in a way which is utterly incomprehensible. If a person has taken at 300*l.* a year that which was previously let at 100*l.*, it is difficult to say that that is not the value.

155. Mr. *Davison.*] I was asking those questions rather to lead you to the 350,000*l.* in round numbers, which is the estimate for the additional streets; are you answerable for that?—I have recently made those estimates, in conjunction with Mr. Shaw, and in making them, of course, I have addressed myself to the existing state of property; I have taken the most recent information with regard to the value of property, and have made due allowances for the very large compensations which we may expect to have to pay.

156. I believe, at any rate, that those estimates have been questioned before a tribunal of this House; these matters were entertained, and they withdrew their opposition to them?—Yes, they withdrew their opposition to them yesterday.

157. But, so far as you can judge at present, you and Mr. Shaw believe that 350,000*l.* would finish those additional streets?—I do. The additional works consist, first, in completing the widening of Newgate-street; secondly, in forming a line of street from the western end of the Holborn Valley to Fleet-street; it is made partly by cutting an entirely new street, and partly by widening the existing line, one of the principal objects being to give a convenient access to those coming over Blackfriars Bridge to reach the west and north-west parts of the Metropolis, and greatly with the view of relieving Fleet-street, Fetter-lane, Shoe-lane, and Chancery-lane, which are at present the only accesses to the north, and the whole of them, which are greatly impeded by the traffic.

158. Mr. *Tite.*] It is entirely additional to the original scheme, is it not?—The dark pink portion of the plan which I hold in my hand was originally on the Holborn Valley plans as designed by me; the Improvement Committee decided at that time to carry up Shoe-lane to the level of the Viaduct; they now revert to their original plan as a better one in every respect; and I may mention that this portion of the street (*pointing out the same*) will require a new outlay; in fact, there will be a positive saving of as much as 2,000*l.* by bringing it this way (*describing the same*).

159. Mr. *Davison.*] May I take it that in your view what you have upon the plan there formed a part of the Holborn Valley Improvement?—No; I can scarcely say that it is a necessary addition to it; viewed by itself, or rather in relation simply to the Holborn Valley Improvement, it is eminently desirable; but it is still more desirable viewed in relation to Fleet-street, Chancery-lane, Fetter-lane, and the whole of the districts to the west, as regards the relief of the traffic.

160. Is that what you have estimated with Mr. Shaw can be done for 350,000*l.* in round numbers?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Burke.*

161. I think for the purposes of the Holborn Valley Improvement you have a special Act of Parliament, have you not?—We have.

162. And a schedule of the property?—Yes.

163. For those additional works in connection with the Holborn Valley, are you supposed to have an Act of Parliament?—Yes.

164. And a schedule of the property?—Yes.

165. And to give notice to all owners and occupiers?—Yes.

166. Why do you do it if you have the power already?—We have not the power already.

167. But you say that under Michael Angelo Taylor's Act you have power to take any property you like for purposes of improvement?—I did not say that; I said for widening and improving, but this is for a new street; there is a distinction to be drawn; Michael Angelo Taylor's Act gives no power to the Commissioners to project a new street.

168. They might knock down a side of one street, might they?—Exactly.

169. *Chairman.*] Is that so?—Yes; I believe that, though not a lawyer, I may state with great positiveness that that is the case. The Commissioners have had legal opinions taken upon the point, and their practice has been consonant with that belief. The legal opinion was to the effect that we have no power to make new streets.

170. Mr. *Burke.*] Can you suggest to me any reason why the Corporation should have any such powers as that, when it is specifically denied to the Metropolitan Board of Works without a special Act?—I think I can. I think that the reason is, to begin with, that the Corporation has got the power, and has administered it economically, and eminently beneficially, and I think that that is a sound reason for their having the power.

171. Do you think that the Metropolitan Board of Works would be likely not to administer it economically and beneficially?—I did not say so.

172. But is that the only reason that you can assign for the distinction being drawn between the Metropolitan Board of Works, who represent the whole of the ratepayers of the Metropolis, and the Corporation, that the Corporation have the power, and that the others have not?—I have not even said that.

173. Can you give me any other reason?—With regard to the administration of these matters in the City, I think that the old practice of leaving well alone should apply to the City. They have done it well, or at least I believe so; and at all events, whatever powers may be given outside the City, I think it is desirable that the City should have its power left intact, unless it can be shown to be expedient to take it out of their hands and to place it in the hands of an alien or external body.

174. I think that you assign, as another reason, that no notices are given of the intention to take the property, and therefore you get it cheaper?—There is no doubt about it.

175. Upon that principle, you would think it the best plan for public bodies not to have to give notice of their intention to take property, but to come upon the property under compulsory powers?—If you ask me as to the value of those powers I have no objection, nor can I see any objection to the rest of the Metropolis having them. On the contrary, they have the power in the rest of the Metropolis, although they do not exercise it; but it is a very wholesome power in these days, when so much ingenuity is exhibited in punishing public boards.

176. Let us condescend, as the Scotch say, to one

one particular: do you claim the right, supposing you wanted it, to pull down one side of Cheapside, and to go to every shopkeeper and say, "We intend to take your property"?—That is the power which we have.

177. Without any appeal to Parliament, do you think that you ought to exercise that power to go to every shopkeeper on one side of Cheapside and say, "You must turn out by a particular day"?—I see no objection to it, if the Commission is bound to bring satisfactory proof before the legal tribunals of the country that it is a desirable improvement.

178. What tribunal?—I apprehend that the Court of Chancery could restrain the Commissioners from taking such a step if it were proved to be undesirable. I know that application has been made to the Court of Chancery to restrain them.

The *Chairman* stated that it was unnecessary to pursue this line of cross-examination, because the Corporation have precisely the same powers in this respect as the vestry of any parish which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Works.

179. Mr. *Burke* (to the *Witness*).] What do those other improvements which are laid down on that plan comprise, besides those matters which are included in the Bill for altering the Holborn Viaduct?—Which plan do you refer to?

180. The plan in your hand, the carrying out of which I think you stated involved the formation of various improvements not absolutely connected with the Holborn Valley Improvement?—I laid no plan before the Committee. I had this plan in my hand (*holding up a plan*) for my own information, and I have used it for that purpose, but I have not referred to it in my evidence.

181. Apart from any plan, then, is it a fact that you are contemplating several improvements, to be paid for out of this 6 *d.* rate, which have nothing to do with the Holborn Viaduct?—I do not know what view the committee of the Corporation have with regard to the apppropriation of those funds.

182. That is not an answer to my question. I think you stated, in your examination in chief, that there were several improvements which you contemplated which you could not say had anything to do with the Holborn Viaduct?—Yes; all the list I have given you, all the widenings of those streets I mentioned, have no connection with the Holborn Valley Improvement.

183. With respect to those, you do not propose to take any Parliamentary powers at all?—Do you mean with regard to the power to take the property.

184. Yes?—There are no powers for that in the Bill.

185. Then, if I understand you rightly, the object of the Bill is to put you in possession of funds whereby you will have the means of giving notice to the owners of this property on the line of your proposed improvements, and make them give up their business?—How the committee of the Corporation will decide to work the Bill, if they obtain it, I do not know; I am simply here to tell you what is needed in the City, and that I certainly can see my way to expend all the money we shall get under the Bill, and a great deal more.

186. It is a fact, is it not, that you contemplate doing, out of this 6 *d.* rate, all the improvements you have referred to without any Parliamentary powers; that is, without any specific Parliamentary powers?—I do not know whether the committee of the Corporation may contemplate having to come to Parliament for powers to make improvements which the Commissioners of Sewers cannot make, or whether they may determine to appropriate the sums of money raised under the Bill to the purposes for which the Commissioners of Sewers can use them.

187. Can you tell me how much would be wanted for the Holborn Viaduct purposes, and how much for other purposes?—That evidence has been given to-day by Mr. Deputy Fry.

188. What will your 6 *d.* rate produce?—About 50,000 *l.* a-year.

189. How much would you borrow upon that?—I do not know.

190. May we take it that you could borrow at four per cent.?—It depends upon circumstances.

191. Can you not give me any idea?—I should think we could borrow at 4 or 4½ per cent. The Corporation has generally borrowed cheaper than any other public body in the Metropolis.

192. You could borrow over 1,000,000 *l.*, could you not?—I dare say we could.

193. You do not want 1,000,000 *l.* for the Holborn Valley Improvement?—No.

194. How much shall I say for the Holborn Viaduct, and how much for these roving powers?—I have not the figures for the Holborn Valley Improvement; they were prepared by Mr. Deputy Fry, not by me. With regard to this new street, it would be 350,000 *l.* for the new street, and for the widening of Newgate-street; but as to the other money which is needed for the Holborn Valley Improvement, I have not prepared the figures, and I cannot answer for them.

195. The Metropolitan Board have unlimited powers of rating, have they not, for improvements?—I do not know. If they have, I wonder why they are here asking for special powers.

196–7. You have turned your attention, as my learned friend said, very much to the question of the obstruction of the thoroughfares, have you not?—Yes.

198–9. The obstructions of thoroughfares apply to the whole of London, do they not?—No, they apply to small portions of the thoroughfares of London, comparatively speaking. Of course you may find a thoroughfare at Kensington where an improvement is needed, but those are quite exceptional cases.

200. Do you not think that the convenience of the Metropolis would be better consulted by a uniform system of improving the thoroughfares, than by several separate systems, one in one locality and another in another, without any uniformity?—I can conceive a great variety of cases in which it would be utterly unimportant. For instance, if it was wanted to improve High-street, Kensington, and also the end of Leadenhall-street, those two cases have no immediate connection with each other.

201. You may give me credit for not being quite so simple as not to see that; I will put the question in another and, perhaps, a more intelligible way. Let us suppose that from the Mansion-house to Charing Cross there required to be a widening of the thoroughfare throughout, would it be better that that should be done under one uniform system, or that there should be two different jurisdictions?—The probability is that it would be more economically administered by

Mr. *W. T. Haywood.*

5 March 1867.

the separate jurisdictions dealing with the subject.

202. You think that the best mode of doing it would be by two jurisdictions; perhaps you would like to have four?—It is very difficult to answer a general question of that sort, because you may make out a case not only for the rest of the Metropolis, but for the rest of England, if it comes to that. Why should not a road to the north of England be carried out by the same body as would carry out improvements in London?

203. I confined my question to the widening of the thoroughfare from the Mansion House to Charing Cross?—You confined me by the illustration, but your question was a general one, and I could only give a general answer to it.

204. I ask you the question, if a new thoroughfare was to be made between the Mansion House and Charing Cross, would it not be better that it should be made on a uniform system by one authority, than by two authorities acting on different systems?—It would be necessary that there should be unity of arrangement and unity of plan.

205. What is there to compel that, if you have totally separate and distinct authorities?—The practical good sense of those who were going to administer the funds would prevent its being otherwise.

206. The City are represented, are they not, on the Metropolitan Board?—Yes, to some extent.

207. By three members?—Yes; but that is a small proportion, considering the constitution of the Board.

208. They have power, at all events, to make known their views upon all occasions?—Yes.

209. The Metropolitan Board of Works are not represented upon the Corporation, are they?—No.

210. If you like two jurisdictions for these matters, would you like three or four?—I cannot go into the general question as to what would be the best arrangement for the Metropolis, and if I did, the probability is that my views upon that point would not suit any of the parties who are now interested in it.

211. Have you already had differences with the Metropolitan Board as to what would and what would not be a proper public improvement?—No doubt the Metropolitan Board of Works is capricious in its action on that point, and a difficulty has arisen.

212. You have had a conflict of opinion?—Yes.

213. The Metropolitan Board of Works have the power to make a new street up to the Mansion House, have they not?—Yes.

214. And the Corporation say we should improve the locality there in one way, and the Metropolitan Board of Works say distinctly that it should be improved in another way, do they not?—Do you allude to the Mansion House-street?

215. I believe at the end of it, where the Mansion House-street comes out at the Mansion House, some alteration of the Poultry is necessary?—Yes.

216. And you are totally at issue with the Metropolitan Board as to the mode in which that is to be done?—We are, but we were not; the Board of Works has altered its opinion within a month, and now it is at issue with us.

217. It turns out that at the present moment the Board of Works totally differ with you as to what should be done in connection with a street, the formation of which Parliament has entrusted to them?—Totally; the Board of Works consider that their street, which is 70 feet wide, should be suddenly pinched to 40 feet wide at the point of joining the Poultry.

218. We need not go into details; it is a fact, is not it, that whereas Parliament has thought fit to say that this street running through the City shall be made by the Metropolitan Board of Works, and has confided to them the formation and all the details of that street, when it comes out into the City where you have jurisdiction you decline to let the Board of Works do, or you differ from them in doing what they consider to be necessary?—We do not decline to let the Board of Works do anything it likes, but we differ from the Board of Works decidedly upon the way in which the improvements should be effected.

219. Have you not, in consequence of that difference, outlaid a sum of 40,000 *l.* or 50,000 *l.* in the purchase of property, as the Metropolitan Board of Works says, uselessly?—I am not aware that the Metropolitan Board of Works says anything of the sort. We have outlaid 49,000 *l.*, or agreed to outlay 49,000 *l.*, upon a line which the Metropolitan Board of Works now refuse to contribute to. They did not formerly.

220. So that if the Metropolitan Board of Works, having the control of this street, should be entrusted with the improved access to it at that spot, then, according to their views, you will have outlaid nearly 50,000 *l.* almost uselessly?—That is, taking their most recent views upon the point; but I am not prepared even then to say that it would have been outlaid uselessly, but undoubtedly the improvement we contemplated is not upon the line which the Board of Works now approves.

221. And that 50,000 *l.*, or another similar expenditure, will be provided out of the 6 *d.* rate which you seek by this Bill?—I think that is probable; but as to the disposition of those funds, as I said before, I have no knowledge of the intentions of the committee.

222. That is what you represent as the proper thing for the Metropolis, that the Metropolitan Board of Works should have the power of making that street, and that you should have the power of raising money to make an improvement at the end of that street, contrary to what they think is necessary?—To raise money for making any of those local improvements; I think the Corporation should have that power.

Re-examined by Mr. *Davison.*

223. My learned friend did not seem to wish to go into the details about the street at the Mansion House. The street to be made by the Metropolitan Board is 70 feet wide, is it not?—It is.

224. And when they agreed with the Corporation, the plan was for it to come out into the Poultry, with a width of nearly 70 feet?—Yes, where it debouches into the Poultry the width would be 70 feet.

225. That is their present view as regards the way in which it should come into the Poultry?—It will still come into the Poultry 70 feet wide; but immediately opposite the western end of the Mansion House is Mansion House-street, which is the termination, the outlet, the mouth of the great

great street leading down to the Thames Embankment, two or three years ago.

The *Chairman* stated that it was not necessary to go into the details respecting this street.

Witness.] The fact is, that at one time the Metropolitan Board of Works so far approved of the improvement on the other side of Mansion House-street, that they offered to contribute to it, and at another period when a larger improvement was contemplated, they came to the conclusion that the widening of the other side of the Poultry was expedient, and they declined to contribute to the improvement originally proposed; that is how the matter stands. The Board of Works approves of the widening one side of the Poultry, which would make that street terminate straight against the Mansion House, whereas the Corporation think that the other side should be widened, which would not bring it right against the Mansion House.

226. Mr. *Davison.*] Was the 49,000*l.* agreed to be spent upon that which was the then view of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Almost entirely so, with the exception that the 49,000*l.* represents a larger measure of improvement, and a greater widening than was contemplated when the Metropolitan Board of Works offered to contribute to it under certain conditions.

227. Now, as to what you seek by this Bill, you have been asked questions of law and questions of equity. By this Bill you seek for no powers over property whatever?—As I read the Bill, that is so.

228. You and the Commissioners believe that you have power to alter, and divert, and widen existing streets?—That is so; to make improvements.

229. And that they have not at present the power to make new streets?—It has been so decided by competent legal authorities.

230. The Holborn Viaduct is a new street, and for that you got special powers by Act of Parliament?—Yes.

231. The alterations and additions to the Holborn Valley Improvement are special things, and for that purpose you propose to get another special Act of Parliament?—Yes.

232. But all the alterations and improvements upon the plan you have spoken about would all come within the terms I read to the Committee, namely, the altering, diverting, and widening the streets of the Metropolis?—Yes, every one of these improvements mentioned in the list which I read to the Committee.

233. Therefore, if you have that power, and if it is desirable that you should exercise it, you must have funds to do it with?—Yes.

234. And all you ask under this Bill is to have the power of doing that which was shadowed forth as the right way of doing it by the Committee in some cases, namely, raising a rate upon the owners of property in the City?—That is what is asked.

235. If you have to wait till the Metropolitan Board of Works come to do it, do you believe that it will be ever done at all, or will not it, at any rate, be a very long time first?—I really cannot answer that question; I simply desire to say that I think the improvement rates have been administered honestly, economically, and well by the Corporation, and I see no reason why they should be deprived of that duty.

236. You see no reason why they should not have what they ask under the present Bill, to enable them to carry out the improvements?—I cannot see why they should not.

237. It is suggested that you would go, if you got this power of raising 50,000*l.* a year by rate, and borrow a million upon it, and give the people in Cheapside or elsewhere notice at once to leave their property and give up their businesses; you have not done that hitherto in any case, have you?—No; these improvements have taken a considerable time in gestation, and no doubt they will take a considerable time in carrying out.

238. Are the persons who have the spending of this money persons appointed annually by the ratepayers of the City?—Yes; and they are persons living on the very lines of the improvements themselves.

239. Besides the interest they have in gaining the approval of the persons who appoint them, they have a money interest it; they are spending their own money?—Yes, strictly so.

240. As regards the uniformity, you see no reason why the streets you have spoken of should not be in the hands of the City authorities, even if Parliament thought it right that the Mansion House-street, or other works of that sort in connection with the embankment should be carried out by the Metropolitan Board of Works?—The whole of the streets I have mentioned to the Committee as needing improvement have already been commenced, and some of them to a considerable extent carried out, and in many cases the improvements have been approved by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

241. *Chairman.*] And they have contributed?—They have to some of them; to some they have declined to contribute, and to some they have contributed, and therefore there can be no doubt as to the necessity for those streets being widened, or as to the propriety of the improvement.

242. Mr. *Davison.*] Do you know what proportion the contribution of the Board of Works is in relation to the whole sum the City pay; it is one-third, I am told?—In one or two improvements the Board of Works has given rather more than one-third; in other cases it is slightly less than one-third; in some cases they have declined altogether, but where they have contributed, I think it may be said generally that something like one-third of the net cost of the improvement has been paid by the Metropolitan Board of Works after the improvement had been completed.

243. There are instances where you have done them entirely yourselves?—Yes; there are a great many cases in which we have never applied to the Metropolitan Board, because we found that they objected to one particular class of improvements, therefore we ceased to apply to them for that class of improvements.

244. What class of improvements was that?—For any improvement in any but the main streets of the City we never applied to them.

245. For anything that was of a purely local character, in which the public would not have an interest, you found a difficulty in getting them to entertain the case?—They do not entertain those cases.

246. Those improvements you have carried out yourselves entirely?—Yes.

 247. Where

Mr. *W. T. Haywood.*

5 March 1867.

247. Where you have done anything to a main thoroughfare, there they have contributed, and as a general rule, contributed something like one-third?—Yes; of late years that has been so.

248. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You have been asked about a new street from the Mansion House to Blackfriars Bridge; I believe that street consists of two portions, the one from the Mansion House to Cannon-street, and the other from the end of New Earl-street to Blackfriars Bridge?—Yes; you may subdivide it in that way.

249. Are you aware when the Act was passed for the making of those two streets; I call them two streets, although they form one line; was that Act passed in 1862?—I think that was the year.

250. Mr. *Sargood.*] It was in 1863, was not it?—I speak from recollection; it was either 1862 or 1863, I think it was 1863; I am told it was 1862.

251. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you aware how much of either of these streets, or portions of one street, had been commenced, or what progress had been made from that time to the present?—I am not aware of the extent of the progress which has been made; I know that nothing has yet been pulled down, but of course that does not imply that nothing has been done; at all events, there is no visible progress.

252. Is there anything visible that the public can see with respect to that new street at the present moment?—Nothing, unless it be a very small portion near Thames-street, entirely out of the general line of public traffic.

253. Are you aware what time was stated as that at which the street would be completed?—No, I am not.

254. Do you know at all approximately what it was?—No; it would be from mere recollection if I gave it. I think it was three years; but that is mere recollection.

255. It was under five years, I suppose, speaking from recollection?—I cannot say with greater precision than I have just said.

256. Are you aware at all, from your connection with the City, and from your knowledge of the various streets, what is the reason why no progress has been made in the making of that street?—I can only go by my general knowledge of what is taking place in the City. I believe it is stated that the Metropolitan Board of Works have acquired a very large amount of property, and that they prefer a large and general demolition to carrying it on by another process, that is, by doing it in small pieces. I have heard that; but it is mere hearsay.

257. Mr. *Burke.*] It is mere hearsay?—I have heard, from conversation with those people who are connected with the matter, that they are stopped by a railway to some extent.

258. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is there any improvement in the City that the Metropolitan Board of Works have carried out and completed?—None.

259. Is this the only work that has been entrusted to their hands?—Yes, in the City.

260. You state that the Act was passed in 1863, and at the present moment there is no appearance of any progress having been made, as far as the public are concerned?—There is no appearance of progress whatever; I do not think that half-a-dozen houses are down.

261. Can you give the Committee any idea whatever, from your own knowledge, when there is a probability of that street being opened?—No, I cannot.

262. Are you aware of any example of any street that has been entrusted into the hands of the Corporation of London to make, which has occupied such a length of time as that street has occupied in the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and in which so little progress has been made as has been made there down to the present time?—I cannot, because the Corporation, in making all its streets, have proceeded upon the principle of acquiring property in subdivisions, and completing at once so much of the street; accordingly, they opened Cannon-street, and Cannon-street West, by degrees; they opened first up to Dowgate-hill, and then, when they had acquired property for 100 or 200 yards further, they open that portion, and so on.

263. Was not one of the arguments which was made use of for placing this work in the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works, who are entrusted with the construction of the Thames Embankment, that they would be enabled to carry out the work far more expeditiously than the Corporation of London would, and than they had previously done in their former works?—I am quite unable to answer that question as to the reasons for it. It was the first time that any works in the City had been entrusted to an external body, not the Corporation, but I am not aware of any reasons which were brought forward for it.

264. Are you not aware that great complaints exist in the City as to the delay in carrying out those works, and that great dissatisfaction exists among a number of persons on the line of that street?—Yes, that I do know.

265. And that comparisons have been made with respect to the time already occupied by the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the time that would have been occupied if it had been entrusted to the Corporation of the City of London?—Yes, I have heard such things as that said.

266. Mr. *Locke.*] A portion of that street, which I believe is to be called Mansion House-street, from Blackfriars up to the Mansion House, has been already made by the Corporation of London, has it not?—A line of street in this direction was originally projected by the City, and a portion in the centre was made, and forms part of this new street (*pointing out the spot upon a plan*).

267. There is new Cannon-street, and as you go up to the east, there is a street that runs down to the right?—That indicates the line of street projected by the Board of Works.

268. But a portion of that street has been already constructed by the City, has not it?—Yes, it has.

269. When was that done?—I think it was done about seven years ago.

270. Do you mean that it was finished seven years ago?—Yes.

271. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] It is 11 years ago, is not it?—I thought it was seven years; perhaps it is 11.

272. Mr. *Locke.*] That is to say 11 years since it was completed?—Yes.

273. That was a proposed street from Cannon-street down to Earl-street?—Yes.

274. How was it that they did not go on with it?—I cannot answer that question.

275. They made that small piece of street which

which is of no use to anybody, is it?—Yes, it is of use to the locality, though it is of no use as a general public improvement.

276. It is not of any use as a general public thoroughfare; it leads down into the narrow lanes, does not it?—It is scarcely of any value by itself.

277. The Corporation completed that 11 years ago, and they have not proceeded further with it?—The completion of it has been taken out of their hands and handed over to the Metropolitan Board of Works.

278. It was taken out of their hands in 1863?—Yes.

279. Still there were seven years when it stood still?—Yes, if it be 11 years ago; I thought it was seven years ago.

280. Had they ever the power to go on with it?—I do not think they had; it was the funds they wanted; they had not the power, I think.

Mr. *Burke.*] Perhaps the Committee would ask this question. Do you not know by the published Reports of the Metropolitan Board of Works, that they have spent already upwards of a million of money upon that street?

281. Mr. *Locke.*] Did the Corporation ever apply for any further powers?—I really cannot answer the question.

282. You have given the names of a number of streets where you are going to make proposed alterations; is Walbrook included in those?—The improvement of Walbrook is considered desirable by me, but that opinion has not been acted upon by the Corporation at present, beyond the acquisition of one house at the corner of Walbrook.

283. Have you acquired that one house?—Yes.

284. You have not acquired the one opposite to it, because there is a new house built there?—No; there is no object in acquiring the opposite one.

285. You mean that you have acquired the house on the left-hand side as you go up from Cannon-street?—Yes; the south-west angle is what we have acquired.

286. Is that the side on which you propose to widen the street?—Yes.

287. You do not propose to touch the church, then?—That has not been decided upon as an improvement.

288. Though you have taken the house on the opposite side to the church?—Yes; because there is a question whether it would not be wanted for another improvement which has been talked about, whether Walbrook is widened or not.

289. What is that improvement?—The making of a diagonal street to the new street which leads to the Mansion House, it being thought by some persons that it will afford a quite sufficiently expeditious approach to the Bank, and cost less money. I beg to be understood as saying that neither course is decided upon, but the opportunity presenting itself, by the pulling down of that house, to purchase it economically, the Commissioners of Sewers requested the Corporation to purchase it, and that was done.

290. I think, from that house up to Charlotte-row, close by the Mansion House, there will be about 19 or 20 houses, not more, will there, which will have to be taken down?—Yes, I should think there were 30 or 40 houses.

291. From the right-hand side up to the church, I think you will find that there are only 19?—There are more than that, I am perfectly convinced.

292. If you took them all down on one side, you would make a wide street up to the Mansion House?—Yes.

293. That has never been contemplated by the Corporation?—It has never been determined upon, but it has been contemplated, and hence the taking of this corner house. I am not quite sure that the corner house would have been taken at the present moment, except that one of these favourable opportunities offered to which I have referred. The house was about to be pulled down; there was no business, and therefore no trade compensation would have to be paid; thereupon the Commissioners took the property.

294. You are aware that the continuation of that street, Dowgate-hill, on the opposite side of Cannon-street, has been very materially widened by the South Eastern Railway Company?—It was widened by the Commissioners of Sewers.

295. First of all?—Altogether.

296. It has been very much more widened by the South Eastern Railway Company, has it not?—That widening was effected by the intervention of the Commissioners of Sewers.

297. Did the South Eastern Railway Company build their terminus hotel at the instigation of the Commissioners of Sewers?—No; but they were going to make Dowgate-hill its original width; that is, about 25 feet at the top, when the Commissioners of Sewers interfered, and agreed with the Railway Company that they should do nothing of the sort.

298. You are aware that the South Eastern Railway Company had a subsequent Bill, under which they narrowed it again, and that the Commissioners of Sewers did not interfere then?—I know nothing of the sort; on the contrary, I know that, on their bringing forward their subsequent Bill, the Commissioners of Sewers compelled the South Eastern Company to give, without any expense to the public, another measure of improvement, but it has not yet been completed.

299. You mean in the lower part of the street?—Yes.

300. The Commissioners of Sewers did that, you say?—Yes; they arranged with the Company for it.

301. It is on the opposite side of the street?—Yes; the houses there are to be set back; that is owing to the intervention of the Commissioners of Sewers; in fact, Dowgate-hill has been widened by the operations of the Commissioners of Sewers to its present width, and it will eventually form a straight and useful thoroughfare, instead of being, as formerly, a crooked and miserable thoroughfare.

302. If Walbrook could be widened as well as Dowgate-hill, that would make a continuation into Thames-street, which would be very useful as a thoroughfare?—I think, having given much consideration to the improvements of the City, that there are not many points connected with those improvements upon which I cannot offer some opinion, and I think that that will be a very valuable improvement; but it would be one of enormous cost, and it is to be considered whether the same amount of money could not be more advantageously spent elsewhere. It would, no doubt, be a very valuable improvement, but the cost of it would be something astounding.

303. Mr. *Tite.*] With regard to the time occupied

Mr. *W. T. Haywood.*

5 March 1867.

cupied in these improvements, I suppose both Boards do their best; they would not linger to the inconvenience of their neighbours, if they could possibly help it?—I am not prepared to raise any objection to the mode of transacting business by the Metropolitan Board of Works. I know perfectly well the enormous difficulty there is in the present day in carrying out improvements of this kind.

304. The Cannon-street improvement was a long time about, and Farringdon-street much longer?—As to Farringdon-street, I think I was not born when it was begun.

305. There has been no time lost in the making of Southwark-street, has there?—It was a long time about; it was opened in sections.

306. I presume your opinion would be that the Metropolitan Board of Works is represented by respectable people, who do all they can to get hold of property, and when they have got hold of it to deal with it for the purpose of the improvements?—I am quite willing to give credit to the Metropolitan Board of Works for doing their best; but that has nothing to do with taking away from the Corporation a duty which they have been accustomed to discharge.

307. *Chairman.*] Have you raised any loans upon the credit of the consolidated rate?—No, the Corporation has hitherto fought clear of that.

308. You have been making improvements, then, out of the annual returns of the rate?—Yes, the improvements have been made out of the actual returns of the rate; they did mortgage the rates a few years ago for the purpose of forming a cemetery.

309. But at present there are no mortgages whatever upon the rate?—There are none. It is now in contemplation to raise money by mortgage with the view of paying off this debt, which, I think approaches 100,000 *l.*

310. You have the power of raising money by mortgage, provided you make a sinking fund of five per cent. upon the capital to pay off the principal, have you not?—They have power to make a mortgage upon the rates I know, but the precise terms I do not know; I think it is what you have stated; but those parts of the functions of the Commissioners which cannot be ignored or left to take care of themselves, such as the lighting, the paving, and cleansing, are so enormously increasing, that the Commissioners are anxious not to pledge their funds for improvements for fear they should be pinched in their other functions.

311. Can you state the amount which has been paid out of the consolidated rate in thelast few years for local improvements?—Last year it was over 40,000 *l.*

Mr. *Davison* stated that the City Chamberlain would be called to-morrow.

312. *Chairman.*] Will the Chamberlain give evidence upon this point?—I know that the amount that was expended of that rate last year by the Commissioners of Sewers was 43,000 *l.*

313. Do you understand the accounts of the Commissioners of Sewers?—I understand this perfectly; last year we spent 43,000 *l.* in improvements.

314. Can you state what has been spent for the last two or three years?—I should think that the accounts of the last two or three years would show an expenditure of something like 35,000 *l.* a year, but, for the same reason which has been stated already, that sum of money does not represent anything like the amount of improvements which it would have represented five or six years ago.

315. You mean that it does not go so far in carrying out improvements?—Yes, it does not go nearly so far; in some cases it does not go half as far.

316. We may take it that the average expenditure is about 35,000 *l.* a year?—Yes, I believe so, for the last few years; but I would sooner that you took that from an officer more immediately connected with it. I know that last year it was 43,000 *l.*, and that at this present moment we owe, in round numbers, about 100,000 *l.*

Mr. *Davison* stated that he proposed to call another witness on behalf of the City, and applied for an adjournment.

The Committee-room was cleared.

After a short time, the Counsel and parties were again called in.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee would adjourn until two o'clock to-morrow, when they would continue their sitting until five o'clock, and that they did not wish witnesses to be examined on either side merely as to what was to be found in Acts of Parliament, or as to matters upon which they had had general evidence already.

[Adjourned to To-morrow, at Two o'clock.

Wednesday, 6th March 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.
Mr. Bentinck.
Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Locke.
Lord John Manners.
Mr. Mill.
Mr. Tite.
Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. BENJAMIN SCOTT, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Davison*.

Mr. *B. Scott*. 6 March 1867.

317. YOU are Chamberlain of the City of London, are you not?—I am.

318. I believe you have been for something like 37 years connected with the City and Corporation of London, in one position or the other?—Yes, it is 37 years since I was first connected with the Corporation.

319. The Corporation of London has, I believe, existed as a Corporation for something like 800 years, has it not?—They have a chartered existence for 800 years; the first charter was granted by William the Conqueror.

The *Chairman* stated that it was not necessary to go into the origin of the City of London.

320. Mr. *Davison* (to the *Witness*).] Has the City always in your time, so far as you know, managed its own affairs within its own jurisdiction?—Certainly.

321. You have an independent magistracy, elected by the citizens, have you not?—Yes.

322. You had formerly watch and ward within the City, and now you have your own police?—That is so.

323. Have you always had undisputed control of the sewers, lighting, and paving?—Yes; there has always been an independent Commission of Sewers in the City.

324. Has the system of sewerage been entirely completed under the superintendence of the authorities of the City?—Yes, that is the case; every street and every avenue in the City has been furnished with sewers by the independent authority.

325. So with regard to the two public bridges, London Bridge, and Blackfriars Bridge, is it not the case that they were erected by, and are still under the jurisdiction of the City?—Yes; they were both erected by the Corporation, and are still under their jurisdiction.

326. As to the only other bridge that is in the City, namely, Southwark Bridge, you have a Bill now in progress in this House, have you not, to make it your own property?—Yes, there is a Bill now pending, under which the Corporation would become purchasers of that bridge, and assume the control over it.

327. As regards the public buildings, have the Corporation erected all the public municipal buildings of the City?—Yes, every one of them, I believe, without exception.

328. The Coal Exchange was, I believe, erected in 1851?—Yes.

329. The Royal Exchange?—Yes, the Royal Exchange was erected by the Corporation, combined with the Mercer's Company, one of the trading companies of the Corporation.

330. In fact, coming nearer to the very point with which we are now dealing, have they also effected, up to the present time, all the street improvements within the City?—Yes, they have, I believe, without any exception. I have accounts which I have been over lately, extending over 100 years, and there is no instance of any foreign jurisdiction having interfered with the City in respect of public improvements.

331. Taking it for about 100 years, can you tell me what they have spent upon street improvements from the books which are in your possession?—I find that somewhat over 6,000,000 *l.* has been expended since the year 1759; that was when Blackfriars Bridge was commenced to be erected; I think the total sum has not been laid before the Committee. It is 6,092,853 *l.*, according to a list which I have before me.

332. Has that been entirely out of the funds which belong to the Corporation of London?—Not entirely out of their own funds, but those public works, public buildings, and improvements have been effected by the Corporation within their own jurisdiction.

333. Exclusively?—Yes, exclusively under the authority of Acts of Parliament obtained by the Corporation, or under their Corporate powers; in some cases without the intervention of Parliament.

334. Has there been to your knowledge, since your connection with the City, any complaint whatever of any misappropriation or of extravagance in the expenditure of those funds upon the public buildings, and other works and improvements in the City?—I have attended many inquiries before Committees of Parliament, but I never heard any complaint either of undue extravagance or of malfaisance or of excessive delay, or indeed upon any ground whatever.

335. We will not say anything against the Metropolitan Board of Works, but at present nothing has been done that you know of by any

Mr. *B. Scott.* 6 March 1867.

other body than the Corporation in the City of London; it has all been done by yourselves; we know that they have power to make the Mansion House-street; we will not go into the question whether there has been any undue delay there or not, but hitherto everything has been done by yourselves, and there has been no complaint until the present time?—Every improvement at present undertaken or completed has been effected by the Corporation, or by the Commissioners of Sewers appointed by the Corporation; with reference to the Mansion House-street, that was offered to the Corporation by the Government of the day, but they declined it unless it were accompanied with funds sufficient, or which they considered sufficient for making the street. It was offered by the Right Honourable William Cowper, who was then at the head of the Board of Works, and it was then declined by the Corporation on the ground that the funds out of which they would have been enabled to effect the improvement, and which had been under their control up to that period, were to be diverted to the Board of Works. Under those circumstances they did not think it wise to undertake any part of the Embankment expenses.

336. We have had specimens of other Improvement Commissioners; the Clerkenwell Improvement Commissioners failed, did they not, in executing some works with which they were entrusted, and which were carried out by your Corporation?—I am not sure whether those works were in the City; they were close upon the City's boundary, and indeed touched the City's boundary; but they did not enter within the City. The Clerkenwell Commissioners failed in carrying them out, and at the request of the Government of the day, and with the authority of Parliament, the Corporation assumed the conduct of those improvements, and completed them.

337. I need not go into other cases of failure; but that is a case of failure where you actually took up the works and completed them for the persons who had so failed. You know of no such case of failure as regards your own Corporation; but do you know of any other instance where foreign bodies are allowed to carry out works within the corporate boundaries?—I am not aware of any such instance. I believe that it is the invariable practice for bodies incorporated in the provinces to undertake the street improvements and public works within their jurisdiction, either under the authority of the Municipal Regulation Act, or under special Acts obtained by those Corporations.

338. The Government did erect the Post Office at St. Martin's-le-Grand themselves, but the Corporation cleared the ground, and prepared it for that erection, did they not?—That was the case.

339. Mr. *Locke.*] The City are not clearing the ground now, are they?—No; the question referred to the clearing of the ground for the Government, when the General Post Office was erected.

340. But now that they are enlarging it, who is clearing the ground?—The Corporation are not clearing the ground; I think the Government have undertaken it.

341. Under an Act of Parliament?—I think so.

342. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] What was the time at which that offer of Mr. Cooper's was made as to Mansion House-street?—It was preceding the Session of Parliament when the powers were conferred upon the Board of Works.

343. Was it before the existence of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—It was in the Session preceding that in which the Metropolitan Board of Works obtained their powers.

344. Mr. *Davison.*] It was in April 1863, was it not?—It was about 1863, but I have not the date in my memory.

345. The Embankment was a matter which the Corporation had under their consideration as long ago as 1842, I believe?—The Corporation originated the Embankment scheme in 1842; they caused the river to be surveyed by engineers, and laid down the lines of embankment which are now being carried out.

346. Lord *John Manners.*] When you say that the Corporation originated the Embankment, do you mean to state that without any qualification?—I understand that that is the case.

347. Surely Sir Frederick Trench originated it long before the Corporation took it up?—There were various architects at different periods; I believe Sir Christopher Wren suggested an embankment of the Thames, but I am speaking of a public authority; the Corporation did employ, with the consent of the Government, the hydrographer to the Admiralty and Mr. Walker, the engineer, and they did lay down lines; I have the report in the room, with the plans.

348. *Chairman.*] You are aware that that step was taken in consequence of Sir Frederick Trench's scheme?—I know Sir Frederick Trench interested himself in it.

349. But that step was taken, was it not, in consequence of his proposal?—I think not. Sir Frederick Trench never communicated with the Corporation, who were then the Conservators of the river. The Navigation Committee, in 1842, laid a report before the Court of Common Council, recommending a survey of the river; upon that Captain Bullock, the Government hydrographer, and Mr. Walker, a civil engineer, were employed by the Corporation, and laid down the lines which are now being embanked by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

350. They were then Conservators of the River Thames, were they not?—They were.

351. And as such they laid down those lines?—They laid down those lines.

352. And they have ceased to be Conservators of the River Thames?—They have, in consequence of a Chancery suit with the Crown; the matter was referred to a Conservancy Board.

353. Mr. *Davison.*] It was in 1857 that they ceased to be sole Conservators of the Thames, was it not?—I believe it was.

354. And it was in 1842 that the lines were laid down by them as such?—Yes.

355. Those improvements and alterations of streets, as far as they are concerned, have been carried out under the powers which the Commissioners of Sewers have assumed to possess?—Only a limited number of them have been carried out under the powers of the Commissioners; the greater part of them have been carried out by the Corporation by means of an improvement committee.

356. But, however, as regards those powers which the Commissioners have put in force, and which it is suggested by the cross-examination of my learned friend Mr. Burke are arbitrary, and such as to cause people to complain, have you

you had any complaints?—I never heard of any complaints.

357. You know that in the present Bill no powers whatever are sought; that is to say, no power of dealing with property, but merely a power to raise a sum of money in order to carry out powers which you believe you already have?—That is the nature of the Bill.

358. As regards the building and improving of streets, I believe, in your opinion, the Metropolitan Board would scarcely be the authority to come down and look after the opportunities for so doing in the most economical way?—We consider they have not that local knowledge which the numerous members of the Corporation possess.

359. I think we agree that they have no authority whatever to do anything in the City except under special Acts of Parliament; at any rate, at present they do nothing except the Mansion House-street, for which they have that authority?—Nothing, unless with the consent of the Corporation.

360. As regards the population of the City, and the rateable value of the property, a question was asked by an honourable Member—

> The *Chairman* stated that it was unnecessary to go into matters which were already fully before the Committee in the evidence given last year.

361. Mr. *Davison* (to the *Witness*).] In the year 1860, I think there were found to be over 700,000 persons entering the City in 24 hours?—Yes; that was according to a census taken by the late Police Commissioner.

> Mr. *Burke* stated that he raised no question as to the amount of the population entering the City or leaving it, or as to the necessity of improved thoroughfares.

362. Mr. *Davison* (to the *Witness*).] In April, 1866, had you a Day Census?—There was a Day Census taken by the Corporation to ascertain how many persons were employed in the daytime; the greater part of the population of the City leaves it at night.

363. What was the number per day?—The number of persons employed and occupied in the City during the day, that is the fixed population, was 283,520 persons, and there was a fluctuating population visiting the City every 24 hours of 728,986 persons.

364. That works out, does it not, to something like one-fifth of the whole metropolitan population, as entering the City during the 12 busiest hours?—It is so.

> The *Chairman* stated that it was unnecessary to go into detail upon these points, and that the question in dispute was simply as to whence, and by what authority the funds were to be derived.
>
> Mr. *Davison* submitted that he was endeavouring to show the great necessity for improvements in the City, and the desirableness that those improvements should not be left in the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

365. Mr. *Davison* (to the *Witness*).] Of course any Night Census taken by the Registrar General would be entirely fallacious as regards the population of the City?—The night returns of the population of the City give 113,300 persons, but that is entirely fallacious; the accommodation of 113,000 persons is more than provided for at the present moment; the provision that is required is for one-half of the males in the Metropolis who visit the City every day. There is another sense in which the Night Census is fallacious; it misrepresents the influence which the City ought to have at the Metropolitan Board of Works.

366. Before you go to that to show how fallacious the Census is, there is in that Census only one apprentice returned, I think?—Yes, I could give several very remarkable facts as to that; there is only one apprentice returned in the Government Census, whereas there were recorded in my office at that date 1,764 apprentices; and the Corporation at that time estimated the apprentices at 3,000, because they are not all bound and enrolled at the Chamber of London.

367. I believe 148 apprentices were actually residing in the printing establishments, while the tables printed one only as being so resident?—There were no apprentices returned at Messrs. Spottiswoode's in the Government Census, and I have ascertained from them that they have 148 apprentices residing there now, and that they had that number about the time of the Census. I mention that to show how very fallacious are the figures of the Night Census with reference to the relative importance of the City.

368. Then, taking the actual Day Census which you have, and working it out as you have done, that one-fifth of the whole population of the Metropolis frequent the City during the 12 busiest hours, you find that you are represented at this Metropolitan Board by three members only out of the 46 of which it is constituted?—That is the fact. I may state that the whole mercantile and commercial population we ascertained to have been ignored at the Night Census. Of the whole of that element which makes the City, the merchants, the bankers, the stock-brokers, the shipowners and brokers, the accountants and the commercial clerks, they only represent 5 per cent. as being in the City, the remaining 95 per cent. being found sleeping either in the Metropolis or without the Metropolitan area on the night of the Census. I may state also that we have ascertained that out of 3,297 brokers who last year had offices in the City, only 33 are returned in the Night Census; that is not 1 per cent. of the whole. I refer to those figures of the fallaciousness of the Census to show that the specialty of the City, with its great commercial and trading elements, is eliminated by the Night Census, and therefore the representation to the Board of Works, which was based evidently upon a population of 113,000, is not only fallacious, but extremely unfair, as regards the most important district in the Metropolis. If it is desired, I could give the proportions to which the City would be entitled as compared with other districts of the Metropolis. I have made a calculation to that effect. In proportion to population, the City would be entitled to four and a half members; in proportion to rateability, it would be entitled to six and two-tenths members. Adding population and rateability together (and we bring in rateability because the Metropolitan Board is a fiscal body, and is appointed specially to levy taxation upon the Metropolis), the City would be entitled to five and three-tenths members. I am merely taking now the fixed population of

Mr. *B. Scott.*

6 March 1867.

the City into account, and not the fluctuating population at all. I find that there are 22 of the Metropolitan districts of the Board of Works which are not entitled to a single member each, which have a single member accorded to them on the ground of rateability. There are 15 districts in the Metropolitan area which are not entitled to a single member, which have a single member accorded to them. And, adding population and rateability together, there are 18 districts which would not, by population, be entitled to a single member each accorded to them.

369. Mr. *Locke.*] How do you calculate your proportion?—I have taken the rateability of the district from the last return of the population of the district.

370. You say that the City, now having three representatives upon that principle, those particular places ought not to have any; is that the way in which you calculate it?—Working the population in the same way for other districts, there are all those districts which have one member accorded to them which would not be entitled to one. For instance, Woolwich, according to rateability, would only be entitled to two-tenths of a member, assuming the Corporation to have three members. I may state that it is not only unfair as regards the City, but that some other districts of the Metropolis are very unfairly represented.

The *Chairman* suggested that this evidence was beside the subject-matter of the inquiry of the Committee.

Mr. *Davison* argued in support of his line of examination.

The Committee-room was cleared.

After some time the Counsel and parties were again called in.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee considered that they had before them, in Appendix No. 6 to the first Report, ample information as to the inequalities of the ratio of the representation on the Metropolitan Board of Works to the population and rateable property of the Metropolis; and that that, coupled with the evidence which Mr. Scott had already given upon the point, was sufficient for their purpose.

Mr. *Davison* called the attention of the Committee to the fact that the evidence before them was based upon the Night Census of 1861, whereas the figures which he had proposed to give were based upon a Day Census taken in 1866.

371. Mr. *Davison* (to the *Witness*).] What do you say as to a body like the Metropolitan Board having not only the power to prevent you from carrying out your local improvements (because if you had not the money of course you could not do them), but as to their having sufficient local knowledge to carry them out themselves?—It is very decidedly the opinion in the City that three members at that Board have not sufficient local acquaintance with the requirements of the City to carry out improvements in the City efficiently, nor indeed in other parts of the Metropolis. There are 236 representatives within the City, representing every minute locality, whereas there are only 45 members in the Metropolis representing an area with a population of 3,000,000. We consider that local interests are not sufficiently represented or understood at that Board, according to its constitution.

372. And that there cannot be, in fact, with every desire on the part of each member at that Board, sufficient local knowledge to carry out the matter as would be the case and has been the case under your own control?—No; if every member were to give every minute of his life, it would be impossible for him to make himself acquainted with all those local circumstances which are thoroughly known to the members in the City.

373. Then of course you add to that what you have said before, that even supposing they had the desire and could induce the Metropolitan Board to look after all those matters which you have been looking after yourselves, from all time, they would not have the power which you exercise under 57 Geo. 3?—Yes.

374. In fact they would require a special Act of Parliament for every special piece of work before they could proceed in the matter?—That would be the case.

375. You have given the figures of the total rateability before, have you not?—£. 2,109,935 is the rental of the City at the present time, according to the last assessment of the Metropolitan Board.

376. Have you got some special figures with you, of the proceeds of the Commissioners of Sewers tax?—I am not provided with returns from the Commissioners of Sewers; I understood that Mr. Haywood would be prepared to furnish that information; I am not personally cognizant of that.

377. You do not know either what amount of that has been spent upon the ordinary works which the Commissioners of Sewers have to deal with, or upon those improvements which they have dealt with from time to time?—I have only a general idea upon the subject, that recently something like 30,000 *l.* or 40,000 *l.* a year has been expended upon improvements; I have not the figures in my department, without searching them out from my accounts.

378. Can you give them?—My opinion is, that of late years there has been about 30,000 *l.* to 40,000 *l.* a year expended in improvements out of the Consolidated Rate.

379. What is the total amount of the Consolidated Rate?—The total amount is 1 *s.* 6 *d.* in the pound on the City of London.

380. *Chairman.*] Have you the public audited City cash accounts for the last year with you?—I have not a copy with me; but Mr. Haywood is here, and he can give it presently.

The *Chairman* requested that a copy of the last audited account of the City should be produced.

381. Mr. *Davison* (to the *Witness*).] You have some figures here about the trading profits of the City under Schedule D, which I understand have not been given?—Those are the trading profits of the City separated from the rest of the Metropolis. I have obtained those figures from the Inland Revenue Commissioners, by their courtesy. The trading profits of the City, compared with the rest of the Metropolis, are

are in excess of the whole of the Metropolis, by 4,081,322 *l.*

382. The figures are 23,053,600 *l.* as against 18,972,278 *l.*, are they not?—Yes, that is so. Those are trading profits excluding dividends on stock, and mines, and docks, and other matters, which are charged under other Schedules of Income Tax Act.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Table:*]

TABLE (A.)

AMOUNT of PROFITS charged to INCOME TAX under SCHEDULE (D), 1865.

Divisions of the Metropolis.	Amounts.
	£.
The City of London	23,053,600
The Inns of Court	922,828
The City of Westminster	5,273,099
Southwark	649,433
Bloomsbury, Finsbury, and Holborn	4,052,915
Kensington	837,246
Marylebone	1,253,898
Tower Divisions	2,736,929
Brixton, four Divisions (including Lambeth)	2,411,113
Blackheath (including Greenwich)	834,817
TOTAL £.	42,025,878
The City of London	23,053,600
The rest of the Metropolis	18,972,278
Excess of Profits of the City over all the rest of the Metropolis £.	4,081,322

383. Have you any figures as regards the Port of London?—The shipping in the Port of London exceeds that of any other port in the empire.

384. Is it 10,500,000 *l.* tons in round numbers, as against 8,250,000 tons at Liverpool?—That is so as nearly as possible. There are no other ports which come at all near to London and Liverpool; London is at the head. Then with respect to Customs duties, the merchants are all resident within the City, with the exception of some half dozen, who live at Finsbury Circus. Although they are not included in the City in the Census, they paid last year, and for some years previously, more Customs duties, than all the ports in the empire put together.

385. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you mean to say that they reside there?—They are resident there during the day: they are rated occupiers of premises within the City, and are not considered in the representation which is accorded to the Metropolitan Board of Works; although they pay more than half of all the Customs duties in the empire, they have virtually no representation.

Mr. *B. Scott.*

6 March 1867.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Table:*]

TABLE (B.)

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

I.—*London* compared with *Liverpool*, other Ports in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, 1864.

PORTS.		Amount of Customs Duties (1864).
		£.
London		11,491,412
Liverpool	£. 2,893,445	11,006,798
Other Ports in England	3,239,202	
Ports in Scotland	2,826,827	
Ports in Ireland	2,047,324	
Excess of London in 1864 over all the Ports of the Empire £.		484,614

II.—LONDON compared with all other Ports of the United Kingdom.

Receipt of Customs in the United Kingdom: *London* contrasted with all other Ports, 1856 to 1864.

	All Ports of the United Kingdom.	London alone.
	£.	£.
1856	24,206,844	12,287,529
1857	22,956,171	11,465,989
1858	24,155,852	12,332,061
1859	25,065,066	12,740,242
1860	23,165,764	11,781,819
1861	23,657,513	11,905,555
1862	23,993,546	12,156,115
1863	23,588,932	11,973,397
1864	22,498,211	11,491,412
Aggregate £.	213,287,899	108,134,119
Annual Average £.	23,698,655	12,014,902
Port of London Annually £.		12,014,902
All other Ports Annually £.		11,683,753
Average Annual Excess of London over the Aggregate of all the other Ports of the Empire £.		331,149

386. Mr. *Davison.*] With all this vast rental, and all this large expenditure by the Corporation upon

Mr. *B. Scott.*

6 March 1867.

upon improvements, with such powers as you have, all you want is money, or the power of raising money?—Funds are required, and powers to raise money.

387. And your 1 *s.* 6 *d.* and 4 *d.* coal tax are all pledged and gone, unless you have a further continuance than you can at present hope for as regards the coal duties?—The 1 *s.* 6 *d.* is already pledged for some years to come, for improvements undertaken by the Commissioners of Sewers; the 4 *d.* coal duty is mortgaged till 1882.

388. And the 4 *d.* for sewerage has been entirely absorbed by the Metropolitan Board, has it not?—Entirely; they have sent down a precept which will absorb the whole of the sewers rate of the City of London.

389. What you ask for is power to tax persons who have property within the City of London?—To tax persons who have property, and who are rated as occupiers within the City.

390. Does any single individual in the City object to this?—I have not heard of any objection.

391. Nor does anybody appear to say that your powers, which you say you have, have ever been exercised arbitrarily against owners and occupiers?—I never heard of any complaint at all since I have been connected with the Corporation.

392. Have you any doubt at all, that unless you get these means, these great improvements will not be carried out in the City?—I cannot hope that the City will have any such improvements carried out while the Board is constituted as it is.

393. Then who is to carry out the Holborn Valley Improvement, if you do not get the money under this Bill; will it not be the rest of the Metropolis outside the City who will have to contribute to it?—The improvement is undertaken for the rest of the Metropolis; it is not within the City, nor for the City's benefit.

394. If you do not do it, it will have to be done by those other people, will it not?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Burke.*

395. First I will ask you, when did the necessity of this Bill first arise or suggest itself to the Corporation?—As to that, I cannot give you any precise date, but it was during the course of the last year, 1866.

396. Was it after you had learned that the Metropolitan Board were trying something of the kind?—I cannot say whether it was after or before. I cannot recollect the exact period; it was upon a motion, by a Mr. McGeorge, in the Court of Common Council; but whether the Board of Works had moved in the matter or not, I cannot say.

397. *Chairman.*] At what period of the year was it?—I cannot say; but I think it was in the spring.

398. Mr. *Burke.*] Do you not know that the Board of Works had initiated something of the kind last year?—I heard that the Board of Works had done so.

399. But it was since that that this Bill had suggested itself?—I could not say whether it was before or since.

400. They gave their notices as late as November last, did they not?—My impression is that the Corporation took up the matter in the spring of the year.

401. But the notices certainly were not published until November last?—That I do not know.

402. Are there any special improvements which suggest themselves to the Corporation as necessary to be carried out by this rate?—Yes; there is one improvement in particular which was suggested in the previous year by a report from Mr. Haywood, namely, a new street to relieve Cheapside and the Poultry.

403. That requires a special application to Parliament, does it not?—It would have required a special application to Parliament.

404. And if a special application had been made to Parliament, upon that special application the means would have to be applied for at the same time, would they not?—That would not be the case; the invariable rule has been to obtain the funds first from Parliament, and then to bring in a Bill for the works.

405. Why should that be the invariable rule; if Parliament requires to be informed of the necessity for raising money in the first instance, is it not a simpler plan to bring forward a Bill to do the thing, and also to ask for the money at the same time?—I do not know whether it would be simpler, but I am merely stating what has been the fact.

406. You have a Bill this year, have you not, for effecting certain improvements in connection with the Holborn Valley?—There is merely a a money Bill, to provide funds; when Parliament has assented to the Bill for the funds, then we follow that up by a Bill for the works.

407. But is there any sort of difficulty in including in the same Bill, as most people do, power to do a particular work and means to do it with?—The inconvenience, I conceive, would be this, that we should have to give notice to the owners of property before we should be satisfied that we should be able to take their property, and that would be a hardship.

408. I thought I was not wrong. I hold a Bill in my hand for authorising additional works in connection with the Holborn Viaduct?—I was not aware that that Bill had been brought in; what I stated is, that those Bills had been always separate; a money Bill has always preceded a work Bill.

409. Now we find at this moment two simultaneous Bills, one for money, and the other for works; I ask you what possible reason there is why in this Bill for executing works, the power for raising money for the execution of those works should not be included?—It is necessary to obtain the sanction of Parliament to obtain funds before we go on with the works.

410. But supposing that Parliament gives you simultaneous power to raise money, and power for the execution of the works, where is the difficulty?—It is not in my department to promote Bills, or to make improvements, but I believe that rule has been invariable, that a money Bill has preceded a works Bill.

411. Now we have in the present Session two Bills, simultaneously promoted by the Corporation, and I only put it to you, not upon what has been the case heretofore, but as a man of common sense, is there any reason why, in the Bill to enable you to execute works, you should not ask Parliament for the means for executing those works?—I am not aware of the reason; that is with the Parliamentary agents, and those who give the notices

notices to owners of property; there is no reason that I am aware of.

412. Do you think it unreasonable to ask Parliament to give money in the dark for purposes of which they know nothing, and then afterwards to bring in a Bill for the works; supposing you want to do works, and bring in a Bill for those works, and supposing when you come to Parliament they say that the works ought not to be made, what would become of the money?—I believe that the Corporation, by the Bill which they are now promoting, and which is before the Committee, are seeking for general powers as well as for particular improvements. I say that the necessity arose upon the receipt of a report from Mr. Haywood, the engineer of the Commissioners of Sewers, during the course of last year, or the year 1865; he pointed out a great variety of streets, but one particular street he pointed out as very necessary, in order to relieve Cheapside and the Poultry, and upon that the Corporation began to consider the means: and that I believe was the origin of the present Bill.

413. We had that before, and upon that my question arose. To make a new street you must come for Parliamentary powers to take the property and make the street, and why should not you at the same time ask Parliament for the means to execute that street?—Because the Corporation thought it more convenient and more desirable to ask for the money first.

414. Now, I think you stated that the Metropolitan Board of Works are not sufficiently acquainted with the necessities of the City in order to execute improvements there?—I say that, as the Board of Works are at present constituted, they are not sufficiently acquainted with local matters anywhere, particularly in the City of London.

415. And I think that you stated that the Board is not large enough to represent the different interests in the Metropolis?—That is certainly the case.

416. Of how many members do you consider the Board ought to consist?—I have made a calculation that with double the number, many of the districts would not be entitled to one member.

417. Then you would have a Board consisting of 84 members?—Ninety members. I did not state that I would have a Board of 90 members; I stated that if you doubled the Board, and apportioned the members rateably, many of the districts would not be entitled then to a single member, and therefore, they would not locally represent the interest.

418. But your view is, that the Board is too small by half?—I did not say that.

The *Chairman* stated that it was not desirable to go into merely speculative matters.

Mr. *Burke* (to the *Witness*).] Although the Corporation have nominally only three members on the Board, is it not the fact that the vast proportion of the other members of the Board of Works are persons who have business relations with the City?

Mr. *Davison* objected to the question.

The *Chairman* stated that the fact was already before the Committee.

Re-examined by Mr. *Davison.*

419. You have been asked a good deal about Bills, and that sort of thing, which you are not likely to know; do you know that the Metropolitan Board have two or three Bills, at least, in Parliament this year for works?—I understand that that is the case.

420. Will you see if that is a Bill for money only (*handing paper to the Witness*)?—I have seen that; that is a money Bill.

421. Then we have followed their example, have we not?—Yes.

422. But, so far as you are concerned, the Corporation want funds, not only for the Holborn Valley works, but for the general improvements in the City of London, which Mr. Haywood has alluded to in his evidence?—That is so.

423. Therefore you consider it a convenient form to bring one Bill in to give you power by which you hope to raise money, and in another Bill you put special works which, as you are advised, cannot be constructed without those powers?—That is so.

424. They may get that Bill and lose the other, of course?—Precisely so.

425. With regard to the date when our Bill was brought in, can you say that it was as early as 1865?—I cannot speak of certain knowledge as to that.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee would accept the learned counsel's statement as to the date.

Mr. *Davison* stated that there was a motion in the Common Council on the subject in 1865.

426. Lord *John Manners.*] Did I understand you to state that the Consolidated Rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* was absorbed for years to come?—For a few years to come. There are improvements undertaken by the Commissioners of Sewers to the extent of about 100,000 *l.* beyond their present means of meeting those expenses, and, therefore, unless they get some extraneous assistance, the powers of the Commissioners of Sewers are absorbed for about three years to come.

427. Have you given us all the resources which are at the disposal of the City for the different local improvements which you contemplate within the City?—I have.

428. Mr. *Tite.*] It was stated yesterday, by Mr. Haywood, that the six years' additional coal duty in present value would be 282,300 *l.*, and he stated that it was given on your authority; was that so?—I estimated it at 283,000 *l.*

429. Then, of course, if that Bill passes, it will help you over this Holborn Valley difficulty?—It would to some extent; but it would not provide for the whole of the deficiency.

430. But would there be the slightest difficulty on the part of the Corporation in raising the additional sum beyond the 282,300 *l.* by bonds in the usual way, on the credit of the general funds of the Corporation, as is done now?—I have some difficulty in answering that question, because at the present moment I have not been able to raise all that the Corporation require for those works.

431. You mean from the state of the times?—That has something to do with it; but the City's credit, like that of all the public bodies, has its limits. We have been raising money on the surplus lands, and, as yet, we have not succeeded in raising all the money we require.

432. But it is not the practice, as we know from your evidence, in former years to separate

Mr. *B. Scott.*

6 March 1867.

the loans in any distinct way one from the other. You raise a sum of money upon the general credit of the City, and upon those Acts of Parliament, do you not?—We always keep a separate account for each improvement which we make.

433. But the bonds are not distinct, are they?—Not quite so.

434. Are there separate bonds issued in respect of each improvement?—Yes; reciting in the bonds for what improvement they are issued.

435. Do you, or do you not, believe that there would be the least difficulty in the world in the Corporation for this specific want, raising a sum of money beyond 282,300 *l.* for finishing the work they have in hand?—I cannot say that there would be any great difficulty in raising a few hundred thousand pounds in the City; but the City are making this, which is really a public improvement in the Metropolis.

436. What has that to do with the question?—They consider that it should not be raised out of their own funds, but that it should be raised out of the public funds.

437. Out of the Consolidated Fund?—The Holborn Viaduct is constructed for the whole Metropolis, although it is within the City jurisdiction.

438. Are not other improvements, such as Southwark-street, and so on, of the same character?—We should certainly, as a Corporation, object to pledge our own funds if there was to be a foreign jurisdiction thrust upon the City, and taxing them for the first time in their history.

439. You have embarked in a work, and you have not the means of paying for it; your estimates upon which you proceeded to Parliament are wrong; it is suggested that you should have a sum of money derived from the extension of the coal duties for six years, that will give you 283,000 *l.*; would there be any difficulty whatever in the Corporation finding the remainder, whatever it might be, to make up that deficiency in the ordinary way, as they always do, by issuing bonds generally on the Corporation funds?—It would not be right for the Corporation to issue bonds unless they saw clearly the means by which those bonds would be paid when they were matured; I am not prepared to answer that question at the present moment.

440. However, the credit of the Corporation is unimpeachable, is it not?—It has been so hitherto, and they have never left an improvement unfinished which they have undertaken; that is the only general answer which I can give at present.

441. What would be the deficiency?—About 107,000 *l.* or 108,000 *l.*

442. Then that is the sum of money which you would have to supply to complete the Holborn Valley Improvements, without reference to the new street which is suggested at 350,000 *l.*?—Those additional streets, I should mention, are very important to complete the improvement, and to give the access to the Viaduct when it is made; but that would be the figure if those works were dropped.

443. However, those streets are not in the original plan?—They were not.

444. Do you know why they were not?—The honourable Member must be very well aware that every improvement leads to further improvements; the traffic which will pass over the Viaduct will be very considerable, and Newgate-street is inconveniently narrow.

445. But we do not learn that to-day for the first time?—It becomes evident, when you draw the lines of improvement, that there are projections in Newgate-street, for instance, which must be removed.

446. They have been there since you and I have been in existence, have they not?—Yes; whilst there was a hollow valley to approach Newgate-street the traffic was not so large as it will be now; it will be an overwhelming traffic no doubt through Newgate-street.

447. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You have been asked by an honourable Member whether you could not raise money by bonds to complete the Holborn Valley Improvement, do you think it possible that the various improvements throughout the City of London could be carried out sufficiently speedy by merely borrowing money on the City's present resources?—Not without some assistance, certainly. That improvement will be a long while about unless we have some material asistance from Parliament, either in the shape of a coal duty, or in the shape of an improvement rate.

448. Is it not a fact that every improvement causes further traffic, and requires further improvement to be made, so that the difficulty is to keep up improvements as fast as the traffic increases in the City?—That is the difficulty; the traffic in the City is not only vast, but it has been increasing in the memory of every man who has been in the City. I have been myself in and out of the City now for 37 years, and the traffic is twice as dense now, with all the improvements which have been made, as it was when I came to London 37 years ago, and this particular improvement will bring more traffic into the City than any improvements which have ever been made, because gentlemen know well enough that they avoided that steep declivity of Holborn Hill with their carriages, and so do tradesmen with their carts, as a most dangerous thing, and when that is removed, no doubt a large part of the west-end and north-western traffic will be projected on Newgate-street and Cheapside.

449. You have stated, I think, the amount of the Union assessments of the City of London, which I believe have been recently made, upon which the Board of Works have made a charge; are you aware that the other districts in the Metropolis have not been re-assessed lately as the City has been, and that therefore the charge upon them is not by any means in an equal proportion with the charge made upon the City of London?—That is the case, and it is one of the circumstances which has drawn the attention of the Corporation to the great inequality of the representation of that Board.

450. The charge in the City of London, I believe, from the Board of Works, was made upon the Consolidated Rate, but they have altered that upon the recent assessment, have they not?—They have taken it lately, I understand, upon the poor rate assessment.

451. And upon the other districts, are you aware upon what basis the charge of the Board of Works is made?—I think it is upon the county rate.

452. Then it will be the county rate of Middlesex, Surrey, and Kent, will it not?—That is so.

453. Are you aware how long it is since there was a fresh basis of assessment for the county rate in each of those counties?—I think there

was a fresh basis of assessment for the county rate in Middlesex about three years ago; but I think that it is about five or six years since there was a fresh assessment in Surrey or Kent.

454. Then if, at the present moment, there were to be a re-assessment of those counties, the amount of the sum which would be the basis would be very much larger than the present amount upon which the county rate is calculated in each of those three counties; and, consequently, they would have to contribute a much larger sum than they do now to the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I think it may be safely assumed that there would be a considerable increase.

455. Mr. *Locke.*] Has not the question been raised in the City whether they should proceed by this Bill, or by levying a county rate?—The subject of the county rate has been discussed in the City, and is now under consideration.

456. Is that county rate to be in addition, supposing you get this Bill?—The powers of levying a county rate in the City are limited by the law to purely county purposes. The amount of rate which could be levied in the City as a county rate is very limited; I do not think it would exceed 1 *d.* in the pound. London is a county in itself; but a large proportion of county expenses in London apply to other counties besides the City. Under the Metropolitan Central Criminal Court Act, for instance, we could not levy for more than our own prisons; we could not levy a county rate for the expenses of the Middlesex or Surrey prisoners.

457. But could you levy a county rate for the purpose of these improvements?—Certainly not for street improvements; but I believe we could for a bridge.

458. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] A county rate, I believe, is collected from occupiers; but this improvement rate is to be from owners of property, is it not?—From owners.

459. *Chairman.*] The Bill proposes to give the power to the Corporation to levy this rate, does it not?—Yes.

460. Is the Corporation elected by all the occupiers of property in the City of London, or by the owners?—By the rated occupiers.

461. By all the rated occupiers?—By freemen occupiers.

462. By those only who are freemen?—Only by those who are freemen; but all have the option of taking up their freedom on the payment of 5 *s.*

463. What is the number of occupiers who are freemen and those who are not freemen?—I am not able to state the numbers.

464. Is it about half of each?—I think it is something like that.

465. Are the members of the Common Council elected according to the value of the property in the City of London in the districts electing them; that is to say, are the districts apportioned according to the population and property in each district?—They are elected according to the ancient ward divisions.

466. Some of those wards have hardly any population or property; and some, I believe, have a great deal of both; is not that so?—That depends upon the meaning of the word "population." The sleeping population of some of the wards is very small; for instance, the wards round about the Bank of England, which are the most influential, have a very few persons left in them at night; but if you take the day census, the population would be more evenly represented.

467. Would the property be more equally represented?—As regards property and population, because those wards which are empty at night would be filled up in the day time.

468. What is the valuation of the City for the purposes of levying the Consolidated Rate?—The rate has been recently raised; I have not seen the figures, but I think it is about 16,000,000 *l.*

469. What was the valuation of the City for the year ending 29th September 1866, for the purpose of the Consolidated Rate?—I do not recollect.

470. Was the amount of the rate 109,468 *l.*?—I am not the officer of the Commissioners of Sewers, but that is the amount produced by the rate.

471. What is the maximum amount of your Consolidated Rate by law?—One shilling and sixpence.

472. But would that rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* be represented by 109,468 *l.*?—This is after deducting estimated deficiencies, and therefore I do not know what the rating would amount to for the year.

473. What would be the deficiency in the City of London towards paying rates?—Empty premises and poor persons excused; but about 1,500,000 *l.*, I presume, would be the rental on which this rate was made.

474. It is ascertained that your rateable value now is 2,100,000 *l.*, is it not?—That is disputed by some parties in the City; they think it excessive, but I am not officially acquainted with that subject; 2,100,000 *l.* is the last basis of assessment which has been fixed by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

475. Mr. *Tite.*] It has been claimed by them, but it has been fixed by a committee, at the head of which is Mr. Deputy Whiteside?—They have issued two precepts to the City upon that basis.

476. But did those figures come from them?—No.

477. *Chairman.*] But that is based upon that which is equivalent to the county rate, is it not?—I understand that it is based upon the poor's rate assessment.

478. Therefore the assessment of the City of London for other rating purposes is 2,100,000 *l.*, is it not?—If that basis is correct, it is so; but I am told, although it does not come before me officially, that there is an objection to that rating. The rate has not been made, and there is some objection to it pending.

479. But as a matter of fact, is the 2,100,000 *l.* a year the total of all the poor's rate assessments in the City of London, under the Union Assessment Act?—I believe it is somewhere about that figure.

480. Then if you rated yourselves in the same way in which the rest of the parishes in the Metropolis, that are properly rated, rate themselves, to the amount of your maximum rate, you would have to add one-third more to the produce of your Consolidated Rate, would you not?—Yes; it would add something like that.

481. And, therefore, if you choose to rate yourselves, as you may do by law, can you not raise the rate to 145,000 *l.*, instead of 109,000 *l.*?—Yes;

Mr. *B. Scott.*

6 March 1867.

Yes; there could be a larger amount raised, no doubt.

482. Then you would have an additional fund of 35,000 *l.* a year, would you not, for the purpose of carrying out that Act of Geo. 3, under which you desire to proceed?—Yes; there is the same power outside the Metropolis of raising the rate.

483. Every other parish in common with yourselves would have the power of raising the rate if the rateable value were properly raised in the same way, of course?—Yes; they would.

484. You are aware that under your Act you are authorised by law to raise by loan for the purpose of improvement, any capital sum that you can pay off by an annuity of 20 years?—I believe that is so.

485. And, therefore, you have, according to the present state of things, 35,000 *l.* a year on an average under the existing rate; 35,000 *l.* a year more, making 70,000 *l.* a year, and you can raise a terminable annuity for 20 years upon it for purposes of improvement under the present law; is that so?—I presume that is the case.

486. Has it entered into your mind to calculate what the amount of that terminable annuity would be?—It has not; that is a matter for the Commissioners of Sewers, and not the Corporation.

487. Taking the general view, I presume you would see in the value of that terminable annuity, raised upon the credit of the rates in the City, a considerable capital?—No doubt.

488. Could you make a rough estimate of what amount of capital might be raised upon a terminable annuity upon the credit of the rates in the City, at the present value of money?—I could not do so off-hand; I should explain that that sum if raised, would be applicable only to improvements to be effected as property was burnt down or pulled down. The Commissioners of Sewers could not of themselves originate any street improvements but such as accident enabled them to undertake.

489. The learned counsel for the Corporation has given us a different view, that is, that they have the power of compulsorily taking down houses for improving streets when they think it necessary, and of paying compensation out of that fund of which we have been speaking?—I am not aware of that.

490. The Corporation of London is in possession of a large landed estate, is it not?—They have a landed estate of about 60,000 *l.* a year.

491. Does the Corporation claim the absolute power of buying and selling land as a Corporation without the interference of Parliament or of the Treasury?—They do not. They are subject as other Corporations are, to the Mortmain Clause.

492. They may not acquire any landed property?—Not without license.

493. Nor any interest in land?—Nor any interest in lands, I believe, without license and permission of the Crown.

494. May they sell their landed estate?—I do not know that they can, but that is rather a legal question than a financial one.

495. Do you mean that the Corporation do not possess the power of parting with any portion of their landed estate?—That is my impression.

496. Have they never parted with any portion of their landed estate to your knowledge, without an Act of Parliament?—Not without an Act of Parliament, or without some arrangement with the Crown in the nature of an exchange.

497. What is the law that restrains their power over their landed estate?—The honourable Chairman is now entering rather on legal matters, and I must decline to be the legal expositor of the views of the Corporation.

498. But if the Corporation is managing an estate of 60,000 *l.* a year, there must be a general knowledge on the part of their officers upon the point?—I have generally understood that they have not the power of selling any portion of that estate.

Mr. *Davison* stated that he was informed by the City solicitor that the Corporation do sell land.

499. *Chairman* (to the *Witness*).] Therefore they have a landed estate of 60,000 *l.* a year, which, whenever they want money, they can sell?—Yes, if that is the case.

500. Has the Corporation any other property of which it claims to exercise the disposal?—It has other rights which I suppose in law would be considered property.

501. Mr. *Locke.*] When they have sold land has it not been under particular Acts of Parliament?—We have always obtained those powers; when we have had any improvements to deal with, we have taken special powers for selling surplus land, as in the case of the London Bridge Approaches and the Holborn Valley; but I have been under the impression that they were hindered from selling their own estate.

502. Mr. *Tite.*] The 2,100,000 *l.* of which the honourable Chairman has spoken, and of which I have spoken, is a sum of money which was the result of the application of the new law with respect to the rating of the City, is it not?—That is so, I believe.

503. Has not that assessment been made by a body formed out of the guardians of the poor under the Union Assessment Act?—That I believe to be the case.

504. And they have appointed a gentleman of the name of Whiteside their chairman, and they, with others, have gone through the City and re-rated the whole of the property in the City, have they not?—I do not know any of the particulars, or the name of the party employed; but I understand that there has been a re-assessment on the Poor Law basis.

505. And the end of it is, that that which was rated at 1,500,000 *l.* is now rated at 2,100,000 *l.*?—That is so.

506. And on that basis any rate which the Board of Works claims of the City is based, is it not?—I have understood that that is disputed.

507. That what is disputed?—The right of the Metropolitan Board to tax upon that basis.

508. *Chairman.*] Is that in dispute between you and the Metropolitan Board?—Yes. The Corporation have taken a legal opinion about it; but I have not seen those opinions, and therefore I cannot answer the question.

509. You have stated that you were not exactly aware whether the Corporation could sell their property; has it ever mortgaged any of its estates within your knowledge?—It has power under several Acts of Parliament for effecting improvements, of mortgaging parts of its estates, that is, of pledging by bonds the whole or part of their estates; and they have exercised that power under every Improvement Act.

510. In

510. In that case there have also been special funds created by the Act for actually paying off the amount raised, have there not?—Yes; but the Corporation have beyond that made themselves liable on their freehold estate, that in case through any accident the funds should fall short they have the means of meeting their engagements.

511. Out of their landed estate?—Out of their landed estate.

512. But except in the cases which have been brought under our notice, there is not at present any deficit in the special funds which have been appropriated for carrying out the duties which they have undertaken under the Improvement Acts?—I am not aware of any; but there are some very large improvements in hand, such as the Meat and Poultry Markets in Smithfield, on which we are expending 600,000 *l.*, and the Holborn Valley Improvement, and the Clerkenwell Improvement. The Clerkenwell Improvement also is not wound up yet until the land is sold. That might leave a very considerable deficit, and out of their own freehold estate they would have to supply that if it arose.

513. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] I think that you stated, in answer to a question, that the Consolidated Rate might be increased one-fourth more than its present amount, and therefore might be used for improvements; is not the whole of that rate assessed from the occupiers of premises within the City of London, and is it not the case that no portion of that rate comes from the owners of property?—It is entirely a rate upon the occupiers.

514. Are you aware of any rate made by the Corporation upon owners of property to cause them to contribute to the large improvements in the City of London, which have so much tended to the improvement of their property?—There is no rate of that kind in the City.

515. Mr. *Locke.*] Is there not the sewers rate?—We cannot apply anything out of the sewers rate for improvements; besides which, as I stated, the Board of Works have taken care to absorb the whole of that fund.

516. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is it the fact that, as regards the property in the City of London, as leases have fallen in, the owners of that property have been enabled to get an increased value for their property to a very large extent in consequence of the improvements, and the facilities given to trade in the City of London by rates raised upon the occupiers, and money obtained from other sources?—There is no doubt that the owners of property within the City, where leases have fallen in, have very largely improved the value of their property. There is no rate that touches that class at present.

517. Mr. *Tite.*] Where does the 35,000 *l.* a year come from, then?—Out of the Consolidated Rate.

517.* Does not that touch the occupiers as well as the owners?—Not at all.

518. If a man is a lessor as well as a lessee, living on his own property, does it not touch him then?—Then it touches him both as owner and as occupier.

519. Is much of the property in the City freehold?—It is not in the occupation of the freeholder at all in the City; the freehold belongs very largely to the public bodies in the City; they have not been touched at all by taxation.

Mr. *Davison* applied to be allowed to examine the Witness on the figures which he had given.

The *Chairman* acceded to the application.

Further examined by Mr. *Davison.*

520. The sixth table is made on the basis of the 1,600,000 *l.*, and it works out in this way, does it not, to show how you are represented at the Board: taking 2,100,000 *l.* as the total rental of the City, you have one representative for each 700,000 *l.* of rental?—One representative for each 703,000 *l.* of rental.

The *Chairman* stated that a Table was before the Committee, showing the increase to 2,100,000 *l.*

Witness.] We contend that the representation is not fair, because Woolwich, for instance, has one representative for 83,000 *l.*; the one being nine times the amount of rental of the other; and therefore, as contrasted with Woolwich, we ought to have nine representatives at the Board. Then again, St. George's, Southwark, has a rental of 146,000 *l.*, Hampstead has a rental of 147,000 *l.*, and Bermondsey has a rental of 150,000 *l.*, each of those districts having one representative; and our representatives have a fiscal power equal to 703,000 *l.* Then there is another case; Paddington has a rental of 758,000 *l.* and has one single member; contrasting that with any of those other districts, you will see a great inequality. We object on that ground to the representation of the Board.

521. Mr. *Bentinck.*] What is the case as regards St. George's, Hanover-square?—St. George's, Hanover-square, has a fiscal representation of one member for 538,000 *l.*; so that it is a disadvantage as compared with Woolwich. It has but one member for between five and six times the amount of rental that Woolwich taxes with its one member.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Burke.*

522. Do you assume then that the representation should be exclusively according to rating?—I have considered that as the Metropolitan Board is not a legislative Board, but simply a fiscal Board, rating ought to be taken into account, combined with population.

523. I suppose you know that representation is rather governed by a resident population than by rating?—I think that the resident population and the rating should be taken into account.

Mr. JOHN THOMAS BEDFORD, called in; and Examined by Mr. *Sargood.*

524. ARE you a Member of the Court of Common Council?—I am.

525. And you are also one of the Commissioners of Sewers, and a member of their Finance and Improvement Committee, are you not?—Yes

526. Probably with regard to some of the facts as to which the honourable Chairman has asked

Mr. J. T. Bedford. 6 March 1867.

the Chamberlain, you may be more familiar with the details than he is?—Possibly.

527. How do you stand at present with regard to funds for improvement?—The system is this: the Consolidated Rate, which is 1 *s.* 6 *d.* in the pound, is devoted in the first place to the paving, lighting, and cleansing of the streets; those are acts necessary to be done; any balance after those things are done we apply to improvements.

528. Is the amount required for the things which you have first mentioned a very large amount?—About two-thirds.

529. And I suppose that that is increasing?—It is increasing.

530. Would it be possible, in your judgment, in any way so to ascertain what the probable surplus would be as to be able to raise money upon it?—I should say certainly not; the one item of cleansing the City increased 6,000 *l.* last year.

531. I believe that at one time the Corporation used to contribute towards the improvements out of their own corporate funds?—They did.

532. Is there any difficulty about that at the present time?—I believe they are prevented from doing so by want of funds.

533. So that there are no resources immediately from the Corporation to meet improvements beyond the surplus?—No. Perhaps I may be allowed to state that they are about to lose a very large portion of their estate by the falling in of the Finsbury Estate, to the extent of 48,000 *l.* a year; and that of itself would prevent their contributing.

534. This tax is proposed to fall upon the owners of property, is it not, and not upon the occupiers?—Yes.

535. Who mainly constitute the owners of property in the City?—I have been told, and I have reason to believe, that nearly four-fifths of the freehold of the City of London belongs either to the Corporation or to the great Livery Companies, or to the other great public companies or bodies in the City.

536. Is there any objection made, to your knowledge, on the part of the owners whom you propose to tax to bear this burden, in order to facilitate these improvements?—I have never heard the slightest objection made.

537. I believe that the occupiers are already pretty heavily assessed for various purposes, are they not?—We consider that the occupiers pay 6 *d.* in the pound out of the 1 *s.* 6 *d.* of the Consolidated Rate towards improvements; and therefore, if the owners paid 6 *d.* also, the cost would be distributed equally between the two.

538. Do you consider, looking at the interest of the parties also, that that principle would be a fair one?—I should think so.

539. Some questions have been asked about the new mode of assessment; I think you know, perhaps, personally, a little more about that than the other witnesses; is the question settled at present as to the rate?—Certainly not.

540. In what state is it?—The Metropolitan Board of Works have issued a precept for a very enormous increase on their last year's call, and we are disputing that point, and intend, I believe, to dispute it in a court of law. We have taken counsel's opinion.

541. Then the result of this new mode of assessment is, at the present moment, in a state of utter uncertainty, and there is nothing to be argued upon it?—No.

542. As a matter of fact, are the valuation lists in the various parishes actually closed at the present moment?—No, that never can be; because anyone can always appeal; and I may state, that during the last eight or nine months the actual amount has decreased 100,000 *l.* from appeals.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Burke.*

543. Is the rate under the New Union Assessment Act disputed, or not?—The amount is disputed by the Commissioners of Sewers; the rate has not been assessed.

544. But has the rate been levied upon any of the ratepayers?—No.

545. For what object was the precept issued?—For the general expenses of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

546. For improvement in different parts of the metropolis?—Quite so.

547. *Chairman.*] Mr. Scott stated that the City had a landed estate of the rental of 60,000 *l.*; did you understand him to include the 48,000 *l.* a year which you will lose at the end of this year, or to exclude that from his 60,000 *l.*?—I do not know whether he included it or not.

Mr. *Scott.*] I gave that answer without reference to the Finsbury Estate, the lease of which expires in the present year.

Witness.] That is leasehold.

548. Mr. *Tite.*] The 2,100,000 *l.* is the poor's rate assessment, is it not?—It is.

549. And that sum has been returned, and in some cases it has been disputed; in your experience, have any appeals against it been successful?—No rate has been made yet upon that basis; we are disputing the basis.

550. That is to say, the Commissioners of Sewers are disputing the basis?—Yes.

551. But have the individuals in the separate parishes paid the poor's rate upon the basis of that assessment?—They have paid the poor's rate.

552. Then the point you are raising is this: you dispute the basis upon which the poor's rate is assessed as affecting the Consolidated Rate?—We say that the Metropolitan Board of Works have no business to take the poor's rate assessment; they should take the county rate assessment, according to law.

553. Meanwhile the poor's rate assessment of 2,100,000 *l.* is affecting the citizens of London, and is paid by them?—Yes, except as charged by appeals; it might be increased if the value of the property were increasing.

554. Then do you dispute the right of the Metropolitan Board of Works to assume the poor's rate as the basis of the rate to be levied by them upon the City of London?—Yes.

555. Mr. *Burke.*] I referred in my question to the rate under the poor's rate assessment?—We have nothing to do with the poor's rate.

556. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] The poor's rate is the only rate which is levied upon that assessment, is it not?—That is so.

557. The Consolidated Rate is entirely on a different basis, and has not been disturbed by the Union Assessment Act, has it?—Quite so.

558. Therefore when you were asked whether the rate has been levied and paid within the City of London, it only applies to the poor's rate, and does not apply either to the rate of the Metropolitan Board of Works, or to the Consolidated Rate?—Quite so.

559. Mr. *Tite.*] But do not the Commissioners of

of Sewers assess the Consolidated Rate on the actual letting value of the property?—The basis which we take is the amount at which the property let under a repairing lease.

560. What is the poor's rate?—I do not know.

561. *Chairman.*] You are entitled to make your Consolidated Rate on the basis of the poor's rate, if you please, are you not?—No; we always have a basis of our own.

562. But are you not entitled by law to make your Consolidated Rate upon the basis of the poor's rate?—I think not.

563. Perhaps you can refer to the clause in the Act which defines the basis upon which you levy your Consolidated Rate?—I cannot answer that question.

564. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] The fact is that the Commissioners of Sewers have never levied upon the basis of the poor's rate; is not that so?—Certainly not: so far to the contrary, until within the last six months the basis of the Consolidated Rate was much higher than the basis of the poor's rate. At that time the Metropolitan Board of Works took the basis of the Consolidated Rate because it was higher than that of the poor's rate; but directly the basis of the poor's rate became higher than that of the Consolidated Rate, they chose the poor's rate, and to that we object.

565. Mr. *Tite.*] But, in point of fact, those gentlemen who assess for the poor's rate assume the actual value of the property for letting purposes, and then the Commissioners of Sewers do the same thing, do they not?—I do not know what they do.

566. What do you do then?—We employ a surveyor, and he tells us what he believes the property would let at a repairing lease; we make no deduction, but take that as the value of the house.

Mr. *J. T. Bedford.*

5 March 1867.

Mr. *Davison* stated that he was prepared to call the City Solicitor and the City Remembrancer, if the Committee would desire it.

The *Chairman* stated that it would be convenient if, instead of calling further evidence, the learned Counsel would refer the Committee to any sections in the Acts of Parliament which he might think necessary to complete his case.

Mr. *Davison* referred briefly to 19 Charles 2, c. 3; 57 Geo. 3, c. 29; 11 & 12 Vict. c. 163; and 25 & 26 Vict. c. 102, and stated that that was the case for the Bill.

The Committee-room was cleared.

After some time, the Counsel and parties were again called in.

The *Chairman* stated that the Committee had passed the following Resolutions: "That pending the general inquiry referred to this Committee, it is inexpedient to empower the Corporation of London, or any local authority within the Metropolitan district, except the Metropolitan Board of Works, to levy a rate upon the owners of property for the purpose of making improvements in the Metropolis."

"That the Preamble of this Bill is not proved."

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL TAXATION OF THE METROPOLIS.

Thursday, 28 *March* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.
Mr. Bazley.
Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Locke.
Lord John Manners.
Mr. Mill.
Mr. Tite.
Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

WILLIAM CORRIE, Esq., called in; and Examined.

W. Corrie, Esq. 28 March 1867.

567. *Chairman.*] WHAT position do you hold?—I am Remembrancer of the City of London. I was one of the members of the Metropolitan Board of Works on its first creation in 1856, and, as the honourable Chairman is aware, I was a police magistrate for a number of years.

568. You wish to make some statement with reference to the local government of the metropolis, and its relations with the Corporation of London, do you not?—That is so; particularly upon one point. The Noble Lord the other day threw it out that it was considered that in 1855 it was settled that there was to be this Board to govern the metropolis, and to govern the City of London. I want to show, from the Act of Parliament itself and other circumstances, that that was really not the case, and that since it passed, in the few cases where the City has been excluded, there have from time to time been encroachments upon our privileges.

569. Will you explain how you arrive at that conclusion?—I will explain how I arrive at that conclusion. I will first of all point out to the Committee the state of affairs when this Act was passed in 1855, and the objects for which it was passed. At that time there were countless boards scattered all outside the City in various parishes and places; there were, perhaps, some hundred or more jurisdictions of various kinds which were found to be what may be called nuisances. I say the primary objects of Parliament in passing this Act were to destroy those jurisdictions and to make a code of laws for the metropolis exclusive of the City; and I think that if you come to examine this Act of Parliament, those being, as I say, the objects for which it was passed, and there being also another object, which was the making intercepting sewers, to take the sewage away from the Thames and send it below the metropolis altogether. I shall satisfy the Committee that it was only incidentally that the powers and privileges of the City have ever been interfered with. I think that something turns upon the words "management of the metropolis." That management, in its proper signification, would not include the powers which are now assumed by, and perhaps in some instances have been given to that Metropolitan Board of Works. It was only, if I may say so, for the administration of the affairs of the metropolis. Now I will call the attention of the Committee as to how very few words in the Act of Parliament relate to the City. If the Committee look at the 1st section it is headed, "1 & 2 Will. 4, c. 60, repealed, so far as regards parishes in Schedules (A) and (B)." From section 1 to section 30 the whole of the sections relate to the elections of vestries and auditors in parishes in the Schedules (A) and (B), therefore have nothing whatever to do with the City of London, not in any way interfering with it, or in any way affecting it. Then comes another long list of sections, from section 31 to section 42, which relate to the parishes and districts, and the constitution of the district Boards; these, again, having nothing whatever to do with the City of London. Then comes something connected with the Metropolitan Board of Works in the 43rd section, the constitution and incorporation of the Metropolitan Board. That goes from the 43rd section (I am speaking inclusively) to the 53rd section. It merely incorporates them, but it gives them no power. There is nothing in those sections as to power in any way. And, again, they do not at all affect the City. Then come a series of sections, from 54 to 66, which relate to the constitution, procedure, and officers of the Metropolitan district boards and vestries, which, again, have nothing whatever to do with the City of London, and which do not in any way affect it. Then come a class of sections beginning with the 67th, and extending a very long way

W. Corrie, Esq.

28 March 1867.

way through the Act, and going as far as the 134th section, which relate merely to the duties and powers of the Vestries and the District Boards Act. All this is forming a code of laws for the outside of the City. Now we come to the duties and powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works. The first great power is, that "Such Board shall make such sewers and works as they may think necessary for preventing all, or any part of, the sewage within the metropolis from flowing or passing into the River Thames, in or near the metropolis, and shall cause such sewers and works to be completed on or before the 31st day of December 1860." And I say that that was the primary object for the creation of the Board, and the next was to give a superintending power over those various districts and vestries which were created by the Act. Those sections go on from the 135th to the 140th; and I would particularly point out the 138th section, which is in these words: "The Metropolitan Board Works shall, from time to time, in order to secure the efficient maintenance of the main and general sewerage of the metropolis, make such general or special order as to them may seem proper for the guidance, direction, and control of the vestries of parishes and district Boards in the levels, construction, alteration, and maintenance, and cleansing of sewers in their respective parishes or districts." Now, it is very curious that there is no power here, even with regard to the main sewage, given to the Metropolitan Board of Works in the City, but there is a general power given over all the other districts, and all other parts of the metropolis. No doubt the main sewers in the City are vested in the Board, that was necessary. But they have no control over the general sewage in the City as they have over the rest of the metropolis, and under this section they cannot make orders affecting the City. There are various other sections following here, giving powers to the Metropolitan Board of Works with reference to the vestries and parishes, and the appointment of officers and other matters. There is one point which I should wish to bring before the attention of the Committee, which has created a great deal of discussion, and which has been before one of the courts, and has caused considerable irritation, as I think the Committee will see very justly, in the City of London. The Metropolitan Board are to regulate the naming of streets and numbering of houses. They claim the power to do it on the words in this section. "It shall be lawful for the Metropolitan Board of Works from time to time to cause to be painted or affixed on a conspicuous part of some house or building, at or near each end, corner or entrance of every street in the metropolis." With regard to the main drainage, the metropolis was defined to include the City of London, and they said, "Oh, we may name and number the houses;" and the Court of Common Pleas having this matter before them, and seeing this word "metroplis," and finding that definition, held that they had the power. But if you read carefully the way in which the judges gave their opinions, I think it will clearly appear that they thought it was a very foolish thing for the Board to do, to come and interfere with those trifling matters as to numbering the streets. However, according to the strict letter of this section, it was held that they had the power.

570. There is an Amendment Act on that section, is there not?—There is an Amendment Act on that section, and it is continued in the Amendment Act.

571. Are you aware that when the Amendment Act was passed, that express question was raised in discussion in the House of Commons, as to the expediency of including the City in that power; and that the opinion of the House at that time was that it ought to be subject to that power, and that a clause was passed intending to bring the City under that power?—I was not a party to any such discussion, and I should think that this Committee would entertain a different opinion, and would consider that the constituted authorities of the City might be trusted to number their own houses; but as I have shewn how it arose in the first instance, and it might have been alleged on the occasion to which you allude in the House, that it was not expedient to alter what had already been done. That is where we suffer so much, and unfortunately we find that what we never thought of, and perhaps the Legislature never thought of, has become law, and has become very obnoxious.

572. Lord *John Manners.*] Has that power been often exercised; is it exercised now?—I am not aware.

573. Mr. *Tite.*] I had charge of the Amendment Bill, and I can state that what the honourable Chairman mentioned was quite right, but are you distinctly of opinion that it was meant that there should be no exemption in that particular?—I was not Remembrancer at that time, and had nothing to do with it, and therefore I cannot answer that question. I understand that one object of this Committee is to make alterations, and suggest alterations, if they be desirable, in the Metropolis Local Management Act; and I think that this is a point which I would submit to the Committee, that we might surely be entrusted with the power of numbering our own streets and houses, and so on; we must know more about them than the Board sitting in Spring Gardens. I think that should have been pointed out in the passing of the Act. When it is once done, there is a difficulty in altering it.

574. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Is it not the case that the power given by the Act of 1855 to the Metropolitan Board of Works to change the names of streets, and so on, is only given in a very indirect manner, and that they cannot change the names of streets without the sanction of the First Commissioner of Works?—That is so; the words are, "It shall be lawful for the Metropolitan Board of Works, from time to time, to cause to be painted, or affixed, on a conspicuous part of some house or building, at or near each end, corner, or entrance of every street in the metropolis, the name of such street; and the Board may, where more than one street in the metropolis is called by the same name, alter the name of any, or all such streets, except one, to any other name which to such Board may seem fit, and which may be approved by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings. I am quite aware that the Board have been growing in strength, and getting power from year to year, with the assistance of the members of it who are in Parliament.

575. *Chairman.*] When the matter was reviewed by the House in subsequent legislation, they gave them a complete power without the interference of the Commissioners of Works, did they not?—That was so, no doubt; by the 25 & 26 Vict. c. 102, s. 87.

576. Will

576. Will you proceed with your statement as regards the Corporation?—Then I need not trouble the Committee with the other sections until I come to the 144th section, which is the great section upon which the Metropolitan Board of Works acquire their power of at all touching improvements. "The Metropolitan Board of Works shall have power to make, widen, or improve any streets, roads, or ways, for facilitating the passage and traffic between different parts of the metropolis, or to contribute and join with any persons in any such improvements as aforesaid." I wish to point out to the Committee the very limited power which was given under this section. It did not at all equal the power which the City of London possessed at that time of making improvements, because the City of London had power, and the large parishes, such as St. Pancras, had power, and have power, to make those improvements, and they can take lands compulsorily for the purpose. All that the Metropolitan Board of Works can do would be this—if some proprietor consented to his house being taken to make some little improvement in the street, the Metropolitan Board of Works might find the funds to do it; they could not take a single house compulsorily, and they have never had that power given to them, even up to the present time. If they propose to make any improvement they must come to Parliament, and ask for powers from Parliament; and that time, I venture to submit to the Committee, is the proper time for determining where the funds are to come from, so as not to give this Board, as is suggested in a Bill which is now before the House, the power of raising enormous rates for improvements, and then afterwards of determining how the money so raised is to be spent. There is also another limitation upon those very limited powers, and that is, that they could not even do anything of that sort to the extent of more than 50,000 *l.*, except, as the Chief Commissioner has pointed out, they had the consent of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Works and Public Buildings. Even the first limited power was given with that second limitation, although this part has been removed, because I suppose that it was found very troublesome for the Commissioner to be troubled with matters of this sort; still the Metropolitan Board of Works have no powers to do such things, except by agreement, which scarcely amounts to any power at all. I have endeavoured to lay before the Committee all the powers which were given in the first instance, and except the construction of the great sewers, they were very small.

577. Lord *John Manners.*] Before you leave that point, would it not be as well to add that, even with respect to the main drainage, the consent of the First Commissioner of Works, or of Her Majesty's Government, was necessary?—It was so; and it so happened that during the time I was on the Board, I moved the adoption of the scheme, which was seconded by one of the City representatives, and which was ultimately carried out. Afterwards it was sent up to the Commissioner of Works, but it was not finally settled; but eventually that scheme was adopted, and has now been carried out, and is nearly completed.

578. *Chairman.*] The power of the Commissioners was first rescinded by a subsequent Act, was it not?—I think it was in the next year; it was in the 21 & 22 Vict. c. 104, s. 25.

579. It was rescinded before any decision was come to respecting the main drainage, was it not?—The Board had resolved upon Mr. Bazalgette's scheme, which was the one adopted, and they had resolved to send it up to the Commissioner of Works; but alterations were made afterwards, and it was by the 21 & 22 Vict. that the necessity for the consent of the Commissioners was rendered unnecessary.

580. It was never disposed of under the original Act, but the works were finally adopted under the Amended Act?—That is so; but I speak very confidently, though I am speaking only from memory, that it was the same scheme which they had adopted in the first instance. They adhered to that scheme and carried it out.

581. Lord *John Manners.*] You will find that it is repealed by the 25th section of the 104th chapter of the 21 & 22 Vict.; the Act of 1858?—Yes, that is so.

582. *Chairman.*] Under the original Act, the Metropolitan Board of Works had the power, had they not, of contributing to any extent to improvements which might be carried on with their sanction by any local authority, including the City of London?—That is the original power.

583. And, as amended, to any extent without the sanction of any other authority?—Yes, but the Committee will see how limited the power is; I have pointed out to the Committee what very limited powers they have; they can do nothing except with the consent of all the parties.

584. But then, if they set themselves in motion, or if the local authority sets itself in motion, under the Act of the year 1817, and the Metropolitan Board sanction it, they may pay the whole expense of what they sanction, and that improvement may be carried out with compulsory power; is that not so?—That is the case where those compulsory powers extend.

585. Is there not a question whether the local Boards, which are by that Act directed to exercise all the powers of the vestries, and Commissioners superseded by them, have not also the same power as the parishes that remain?—I have no doubt that there was no power taken away from the various local authorities that are within the district (as I will call it) of the 57th of Geo. 3, to which the honourable Chairman alludes, which was passed in the year 1817. It is a very curious section, and I will call the attention of the Committee presently to that; but that district is not co-extensive with the district of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

586. And all the area that was comprised in the Act of 1817?—Yes, all the area comprised in that Act.

587. Chelsea is not within the bills of mortality, is it?—It is not.

588. And that is one of the parishes in the outer circle of the metropolis which was not included in the old bills of mortality, or in the parishes specially named in the Act of 1817?—That is so.

589. But all the parishes within the limit of the Act of 1817 have compulsory powers, and when they exercise them with the sanction of the Metropolitan Board of Works, the Metropolitan Board of Works has an unlimited power of paying for the improvement, and of levying that amount upon the occupiers within the metropolis, including the City of London?—I venture to make a correction on that point. It is not necessary for the City of London to have the sanction of

W. Corrie, Esq.

28 March 1867.

the Metropolitan Board of Works to make those improvements.

590. None of the parishes need have the sanction of the Metropolitan Board of Works if they pay the whole expense out of their own resources; but if they ask the Metropolitan Board of Works to help them, they must ask the sanction of the Board; and if they give that sanction they may pay the whole of the expense, and charge it upon the whole metropolis?—No doubt they have that power.

591. If they give their consent, and if they choose, they may charge the whole expense of the entire improvement on the metropolis?—Yes, of these local improvements.

592. They charge the whole expense on the metropolis, including the City?—That is the case.

593. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is it the case that an improvement may be made in any portion of the metropolis under the compulsory power which that portion of the metropolis possesses under previous Acts, and that if the Metropolitan Board of Works agrees to it, or consents to it, they can charge the whole amount of that outlay upon the whole of the metropolis, without exception?—I am afraid that is so; but that is one of the things which I think ought to be amended.

594. Are there not excepted localities which contribute nothing towards that expense?—If the Committee will allow me, I will explain that afterwards. There is a very serious question upon that exception which I will bring forward presently.

595. So it is the whole of the metropolis, with exceptions?—With exceptions; but I must again ask the Committee to recollect what a limited power this is. It is only a power that if a man will consent to take his house down they may pay the expense. But I believe this power has never been exercised at all by the Metropolitan Board of Works doing anything themselves; everything that they have done has been done in this way. The locality have said: "We want so and so to be done; we approve it; give us something towards it;" but the Metropolitan Board of Works, although by the wording of the section they have power to do it, and to pay all expenses, as the honourable Member for the City of London has stated, yet they have never done such a thing; and so far as I am aware (though I cannot speak confidently upon that point) the Metropolitan Board of Works have never made an improvement under that section from the time the Act of Parliament passed to the present time. Now, I come to the exceptions which have been pointed at by the honourable Member for the City of London. I use this as a very strong argument to show that it was never intended under the words "expenses of the Board," that those improvements which are now claimed, according to the strict letter of the Act of Parliament to be carried on by the Board of Works, should be done. In the 176th section there is this provision: "Provided always, that the places mentioned in Schedule (C) to this Act which are not now under-rating for sewers, shall not be liable to be rated under this Act, except for the purpose of their contributing to the expense of carrying into effect any plan for preventing the sewage of the metropolis from flowing into the River Thames, in or near the metropolis, so far as such places respectively shall be benefited." Now, I wish to point out to the Committee what those places in Schedule (C) are. We turn to Schedule (C) of the Act, and we find, first of all, that they comprise the close of the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, the Charter House, the Inner Temple, the Middle Temple, Lincoln's Inn, Gray's Inn, Staple Inn, and Furnival's Inn. Now, what I say is, that it might be very fair when this grand sewage scheme was to be made to charge the City of London with its share, and to charge those places with their shares; but when you are providing a machinery for the government of the metropolis outside the City, it seems to me very unfair to charge the City with the expenses of that government unless you charge these places also.

596. *Chairman.*] You see no reason why they should be exempted from contribution to the rates?—I cannot see the slightest reason, unless the City is also exempted. I think both ought to be exempted from the same charges.

597. Are you aware that at the time the Act passed they were extra parochial places not liable to poors rates or police rates, or any other local rate?—Yes.

598. And are you aware that the state of things has changed since, and that the law of exemption of extra parochial places has been very much modified throughout England?—I am quite aware of it.

599. But it would seem that those places, from the peculiar position perhaps of their inhabitants, have hitherto succeeded in exempting themselves from the operation of the general Acts, and have enjoyed the privileges of extra parochial places?—I should say that the church and the law are very fortunate in getting exemptions which the City have not been able to get, though equally entitled to them.

600. You are not aware of any reason for that exemption, except their influence in the two Houses of Parliament?—They were wiser in their generation than we were, and they saw what was going to happen, and they said, "Tax as much as you like for the principal object of a Bill, but we do not want governing, and do not want to pay the expenses of it."

601. Do you see any reason why they should be exempted from the ordinary local rates of the metropolis now?—I see no reason why they should be exempted from the rates of the Metropolitan Board, to which the inhabitants of the City are liable.

602. Or to which the inhabitants of the Strand, or of any other part of the metropolis, are liable?—I have before explained that other parts of the metropolis derive benefits from the government of the Board, which the City and the places in Schedule (C.) do not.

603. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is it true that the Temple is free from the police rate now?—I think I understood the Chairman to say that it was at that time, but no doubt the Temple is liable now to the police rate.

604. *Chairman.*] That is because they entered into an agreement with the City to receive the police from them, and to pay the rate; is not that so?—I cannot speak as to the agreement. The City Police Act expressly includes them; it provides that any part "not included within the metropolitan police district shall be subject to the police of the City."

605. Is that the Amendment Act, or the original Act?—It is the first Police Act of the City.

606. That was not put into force at first against the

the Temple, was it?—I do not know whether it was put in force at first, but I know it is put in force now; and the City Commissioner of Police said to me the other day, "I wish (to use a strong expression) we could get rid of them altogether; they are more trouble than all the rest of the City together."

607. Lord *John Manners.*] Do you mean the lawyers?—The lawyers are, and in this way: they leave their chambers untenanted, and robberies take place, and all sorts of difficulties arise with the police which do not arise in other parts; but the fact is that they are liable to the City police rate.

608. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you not aware that the Templars paid the police rate for some years, and always maintained their own police?—That I am not aware of. I suppose they have found it best to trust entirely to the City police; at all events, they do so now.

609. But do you not draw another conclusion from this exception with regard to the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works, as to the intention at the time of its constitution?—I intended to express, and I thought I had expressed, that opinion. I draw a very strong inference from this exception.

610. You have stated that you think there ought not to be exceptions; but as yet you have not stated what conclusion you draw as to the Bill, those exceptions being it it; will you state what is the conclusion which you draw?—I draw several conclusions; one being that, looking at the other parts of the Act which I have pointed out, it was not intended that this management should apply to places like the city, and to places like those in Schedule (C), which do not want their assistance. We have no advantage from the Board in the City; but outside, in the metropolis, they appeal to the Board, and the Board decides various questions between the different districts; there is a certain clause, to which afterwards I shall call the attention of the Committee, the appeal clause; but they have nothing to do with us; and why should we pay for keeping up a machinery from which we derive no benefit? That is the way it strikes my mind.

611. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed, if you please, with your statement?—There are a great number of sections from the 176th section, and they go on to the 210th section. They are all provisions which are very necessary and very proper, I dare say, for making bye-laws, and all sorts of reports, and the auditing the accounts, and all those things connected with the smaller boards; but they are not applicable to us, and we have nothing to do with them, and we derive no benefit from them. It is the code of laws for the outside part of the metropolis, with which we in the City have nothing to do. The City was already provided with all those laws and provisions. Then the 211th section is the clause about the appeals: "Any person who deems himself aggrieved by any order of any vestry or district board, in relation to the level of any building, or any order or act of any vestry or district board in relation to the construction, repair, alteration, stopping or filling up, or demolition of any building, sewer, drain, water-closet, privy, ashpit, or cesspool, may, within seven days after notice of any such order to the occupier of the premises affected thereby, or after such act, appeal to the Metropolitan Board of Works." That does not extend to the City; we have nothing at all to do with it. Then they are to appoint a committee for the purpose, and so you go on to the end of the Act of Parliament; and in the result there are only those two or three sections which I have pointed out which in any way affect the City. I say, therefore, that looking at the general scope of the Act, and looking at the evils which it was intended to correct, it was not intended in the first instance that the City should do anything more than pay its expenses to the general sewers rates. With regard to those exempted places, I should wish to point out to the Committee the very large amount of the assessment to which they are liable. The assessment upon those places amounts to between 70,000 *l.* and 80,000 *l.* a year. That we arrive at by the assessment for the general drainage scheme; and it is larger than on 25 of the parishes which are liable to the general expenses of the Board. Now I certainly cannot see why Furnival's Inn should be exempted if we are to be liable, or why Gray's Inn is not to be liable and Serjeant's Inn is to be liable. It is fair that all parties who derive benefit from the government of this Board, should contribute; but we derive no benefit any more than the Temple does from the Board. I would wish to point out to the Committee how, when evils of this sort arise, they continue from time to time till they become inveterate. I understand a proposition has been made to Parliament by the Metropolitan Board of Works which continues this exception for those very rich places, whilst it leaves the poor parishes of St. Saviour's, Southwark, and others liable to all those expenses.

612. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] To a new rate?—To a new rate; the 25 & 26 Vict. c. 102, s. 11, contains a sanction to this exemption.

613. Did the Cattle Plague Act exempt them still?—Yes; every charge which is from time to time added to what they call the expenses of the Board, those parties entirely escape.

614. *Chairman.*] Is the exemption in the charge for fire-engines?—Yes, the cost is charged upon their general expenses. Those places are exempted from whatever is charged upon the general expenses of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

615. Mr. *Tite.*] But there is a special rate for fire; I do not think that they are exempt in that special rate for fire, which is not to exceed a halfpenny?—I have not the Fire Act here, I think, but however it may be taken as a general statement, that wherever any new expense is thrown upon the Board, those places are exempted.

616. *Chairman.*] Whatever is paid out of that general rate does not fall upon the places which are in Schedule (C)?—Those in Schedule (C) are only to pay, in fact, for the main drainage. They do not in any other way contribute to the other expenses of the Board.

617. Unless they are specially charged?—Yes; there are numerous Acts of Parliament which have passed, in which the City of London is exempted from various charges, one of them being the Metropolis Gas Act. We are not liable to the rates under it, because they are to raise all expenses in pursuance of the Act upon districts within their jurisdiction, exclusive of the City of London. The City of London is a county of itself; it has to pay those expenses; it does not escape them. Is is sometimes suggested that the City escapes from these sort of expenses; but they are grievously charged with them.

W. Corrie, Esq.

28 March 1867.

The Committee will be surprised to hear of the sums levied upon some of the parishes in the City.

618. You have stated that there are several Acts in which the City is exempted; is there any other Act but the one which you have just quoted?—I could mention others; I have just happened to cast my eye upon this Act; but I dare say that I could supply the Committee with several others where that is done. The reason is not that they do not pay these expenses, but they manage their own concerns, and pay their own expenses.

619. If you find any other Act, will you supply it to the Committee?—I will do so. Perhaps the Committee will allow me to call attention upon this branch of the case, to the very large sums which the City have devoted for improvements, and not only in the metropolis, but out of the metropolis. I find that I have a list here from the year 1780 to 1865 of sums spent in improvements, and the total is 1,691,651 *l.* It is true that there is one sum which can scarcely be considered to be contributed by the City proper, it is contributed, not out of their own funds, but out of the coal tax; it was 324,000 *l.*; but, as I had the honour of submitting to the Committee before, we consider that we have a peculiar claim upon that. However, even if you strike that out, there would remain more than 1,300,000 *l.* spent by the City in improvements.

[*Mr. Corrie has not furnished this account, but states that the items contained in it are included in the list of "Improvements, &c." Appendix, No.* 7.]

620. Lord *John Manners.*] In improvements outside the City?—In the City and outside. Whenever persons are in want, whether it be for a charity, or an improvement, or a chapel, they suppose that our funds are unlimited, and they come to the City and ask for a grant. I am now upon improvements, but those are what we should call charitable purposes. We do not confine, even in improvements, our expenditure to ourselves.

621. *Chairman.*] Those are the improvements of which we have had Schedules before the Committee in 1860, and before previous Committees of the House, are they not?—I am not aware of what was before those Committees; I only mentioned these facts to show that we do not confine our expenditure to ourselves, but distribute it to all parts of the metropolis from our surplus funds; I know that it is more by way of a joke than anything else, but it is said that the City spend their money in eating and drinking. Very little indeed is spent in eating and drinking, but it is spent in this manner: I have a list of the charitable purposes for which the money has been spent, and I find that they amount to 248,606 *l.*, from 1781 up to 1865. Most of those are to places outside the City. Here is a sum of 3,000 *l.* granted to Bethlehem Hospital; to Bethnal-green for churches, 1,000 guineas; to King's College, 500 guineas.

622. Mr. *Tite.*] And to middle-class education, 1,000 *l.*?—That is since this list was made out.

623. Since that total was constituted?—Yes; to West India sufferers there was a grant of 1,000 *l.*, and I may say generally that, in any part of the world where they want money and are in distress, they come to us, and if we have the means we give it to them. Perhaps it might not be inappropriate upon this subject, with regard to what the honourable Chairman sometimes calls attention to, namely, that a great deal of money is spent in eating and drinking, to refer to the amount which is spent upon public entertainments, such as entertaining foreign Sovereigns and distinguished men from all parts of the world. Whenever such persons come to the metropolis, they are all invited by the City, whether it be a king or a philosopher; there is no other body to do it; no other body has the power of doing it. I know that it is rather considered a sort of joke, but when a joke is continued so long people begin to believe it, and they think this money is spent in eating and drinking by the citizens.

624. Have you an accurate account for the last three or four years of the amount spent in eating and drinking by the Corporation?—I have no account of it here; the amount spent, if you may so say, upon the Corporation itself is very small indeed. If it is a public entertainment, such as entertaining the Princess of Wales, or anything of that sort, I think it very desirable that there should be some body existing for such purposes; and if you were to deprive the City of their privileges, you would deprive them of that power.

625. Mr. *Kekewich.*] I presume you refer to the entry of the Princess of Wales?—Yes.

626. Was that paid for out of the funds of the City of London?—Entirely.

627. From the annual funds?—Probably that year they might have spent rather more than their income, but it was paid for out of their funds. If in one year they pay a little more than their income amounts to they make it up afterwards.

628. *Chairman.*] When you speak of entertaining princes and kings, you mean entertaining the aldermen and common councillors and their friends and relations with princes and kings?—No; for instance, I take the case of the Allied Sovereigns when they come over here. There was a very splendid entertainment (though that is only what I have read about when I was young) given on that occasion; I do not think that that was entertaining the aldermen; it was entertaining those sovereigns and the Prince Regent.

629. But, in more recent times, within your knowledge, are the people who are entertained who meet the sovereigns, and other persons associated with the sovereigns chiefly, or are they the aldermen and common councilmen, and their wives and relations, and customers and connections?—No doubt the aldermen will be invited, and the common councilmen; but all the members, as you are aware, of the Legislature of both Houses, and particularly the metropolitan Members, are always invited to those entertainments. It is considered a national institution, and, therefore, I do not consider that it is entertaining the aldermen, but it is entertaining those great persons.

630. As you have referred to the metropolitan Members, and to these entertainments in the City being a national institution, will you inform the Committee whether that is a view which has been recently taken by the Corporation under your advice, and which did not exist until two years ago?—It has existed ever since I have been there. I cannot speak beyond that time; but all the great officers of State are invited; I do not think that it is an entertainment of the Corporation themselves, but it is an entertainment of those great persons.

631. Lord *John Manners.*] It might be as well to state who really are the entertainers; it is not the Lord Mayor by himself personally, is it?—No.

632. In

632. In whose name are the entertainments given?—The feast on the 9th of November is given by the Lord Mayor and the sheriffs of the county of Middlesex and the City of London; but such an entertainment as the one to the Allied Sovereigns, or to the Emperor of the French, or to the King of the French when he came, or to any sovereign who might come now, would be by the Corporation alone.

633. The whole Corporation of the City of London?—The whole Corporation of the City of London.

634. *Chairman.*] Is the invitation given in the name of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London?—Sometimes by the Lord Mayor, at other times by the Corporation.

635. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is there not an Entertainment Committee appointed by the Corporation, and does not the Chairman of that Committee issue the invitations?—That is the general practice, I believe.

636. Sir *William Gallwey.*] Does the Corporation constantly entertain the metropolitan Members as a matter of course?—They are not entertained as a body; they are entertained with other distinguished persons.

637. Very largely and constantly?—No, I would scarcely say that; but I have no doubt that if any sovereign were to be invited to-morrow, invitations would go to the metropolitan Members.

638. Were they all asked to meet the Princess of Wales?—I can only speak to what has been done since I have been in office; and I think that in every entertainment which has been given by the Corporation on a great occasion, the metropolitan Members have been invited.

639. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] In point of fact, we may take it that you think that there ought to be somebody to entertain foreign princes and distinguished persons?—Yes.

640. And you think that the City of London adequately performs that duty?—I think so.

641. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect to the entertainments, the honourable Chairman having alluded to the Corporation inviting distinguished persons and entertaining themselves, their wives, their families, their customers, and their connections; I will allude to a recent occasion when the King of the Belgians, the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and other persons connected with the Royal Family, and distinguished personages were invited; are you aware that at that entertainment only the chairmen of committees, the aldermen and the sheriffs were invited, and neither their wives, nor any portion of their families, connections, or customers?—That was an invitation by the Lord Mayor. I can say in answer to that, that I was not invited myself; and I do not think that any officer of the City was invited. It was a very confined party in the way that you speak of, I believe, but I was not there.

642. The officers of the Corporation were not asked?—I do not think that one of them was.

643. Nor the ladies of the Chairmen of Committees, nor the ladies of the aldermen and sheriffs?—I believe not, but I was not there myself.

644. But have you understood that that entertainment gave great satisfaction to the Royal personages on that occasion?—I believe so.

645. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Did it give any dissatisfaction to the persons who were not invited?—I am not aware that it did; I did not go, and I was not discontented at not being invited, but I mentioned the fact to explain why I do not know anything about it.

646. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Then I may take it that it is not the invariable practice in entertainments in the City that the whole of the Corporation should be invited, and the whole of the officers, or the wives, families, customers, and connections of the members of the Corporation of the City of London?—Certainly not. As a general rule, there is a very limited part of the Corporation invited to those entertainments. For instance, when the judges are invited, the most distinguished members of the bar are invited to meet the judges. When the archbishops and bishops are invited, many of the clergy are invited, and so on; but there is a very small sprinkling of the members of the Corporation on those occasions. That is an entertainment by the Lord Mayor, the head of the Corporation, and not by the Corporation itself. With respect to this question of municipalities, and what the Committee will recommend on the subject, I wish to point out that the municipal franchise in the City of London is of the most liberal kind. A Bill has passed the House of Commons, and is now before the House of Peers, very largely extending that franchise.

647. Mr. *Locke.*] It leaves out the word "freemen," does it not?—There are several alterations in it; that is one, but it is anticipating, if I may so say, the Reform Bill, and giving the privilege to every occupier who will under any Reform Bill which may hereafter be passed have a vote as an occupier, and I am told that it will raise the municipal constituency to something like 12,000. Therefore the Committee will see that it is a very extensive and liberal measure.

648. With regard to the municipal constituency at the present moment, they must be freemen occupiers, must they not?—That is so.

649. That has curtailed the number very considerably indeed, has it not?—Yes.

650. Because persons do not choose to take up their freedom?—Yes.

651. *Chairman.*] The municipal voters are about half the number of the Parliamentary voters in the City at present, are they not?—I should think scarcely that.

652. I refer to Parliamentary voters by occupation?—Yes; but by the present Bill, which in a few days will become an Act, the constituency will be raised probably to 12,000.

653. Will it be co-extensive with the Parliamentary franchise in point of numbers?—It will, so far as that franchise relates to occupation, and it will be more extensive, because it will not be confined to the seven miles.

654. Mr. *Locke*] But you still retain the 10*l.* qualification, do you not?—For the present.

655. Under the statute of the 18 Geo. I. originally, that was a 10*l.* qualification, and that has always been retained since, has it not?—It has; but it is now being altered. The 11 Geo. I. was the first Act.

656. What was that?—"Rated in respect of not less than 10*l.*;" that is continued in the last Act, and all those persons will have the power of voting; but, supposing the Reform Bill should pass this year, or at any time reducing the franchise for Parliament, every person who would have a vote as an occupier for Members of Parliament would have a vote for the municipality.

657. That

W. Corrie, Esq.
28 March 1867.

657. That is, you take the voters of the Parliamentary constituency?—The voters entitled to be in the Parliamentary constituency as occupiers, without restriction of residence.

658. Whatever the number may be?—Whatever it may be. There is one subject which, perhaps, I may be allowed to mention to the Committee. The Corporation has not only been allowed to govern itself, but it very often has assisted the Government when they have been in difficulties. I was about to point out one or two cases of that sort. First of all, in the case of Smithfield Market, it was determined, as the Committee are aware, that it must be removed from the City, and great difficulty was found in so doing. The Government brought in a Bill appointing Commissioners for the purpose of removing it; but funds were wanting, and then the City took it up, and have completed it, and have completed it at a very great loss. I do not know what the amount may be, but the Chamberlain will probably tell you that. That has been a very serious loss to the City. They stepped in as it were to assist the Government on that occasion. I will mention one other case, and that is the case of the improvement in Clerkenwell. A great improvement was to be carried out there, continuing a street to Islington from Farringdon Street; Commissioners were to do it, but they stuck fast in the work, and the City afterwards took it up, and they have completed that work at last at a very great loss. Whether they will ever be recouped for the money that they have spent, I cannot tell, but they did it. So that they have not only been allowed to govern themselves and to manage their own concerns, but they have been called on, as it were, to aid the Government and to aid the rest of the metropolis in carrying out works of that kind.

659. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With regard to the Smithfield Market, the responsibilities as to Smithfield Market were undertaken at the request of the Government of the day, were they not?—Yes.

660. *Chairman.*] You have a statement of the amount spent by the Corporation; are those works included in that summary of works mentioned in that schedule (*handing the schedule to the Witness*)?—No; the works that I gave the Committee are works which are not provided out of trust funds, except as you might consider the coal duties to a certain extent trust funds.

661. Are the works that you included in your summary also in that list which I have handed to you, because that is a much larger schedule?—Mine was the City proper, if I may so say.

662. They are all in the schedule, as you will see?—The summary within the City is 1,200,000 *l.*

663. Are the works which you mentioned included in that schedule as works within the City?—I should say certainly not; but I do not like to speak upon the subject without accurate knowledge. The Chamberlain, who is more familiar with these things than I am, says thay are not included.

664. Can you give the Committee a schedule of the works?—I can give you a schedule amounting to the sum that I have mentioned.

665. Lord *John Manners.*] May the Committee understand that you have now finished your comments upon the Act of 1855?—I think so.

666. Have you any observations that you wish to make upon the Act of 1858, and the subsequent Acts, which from time to time have increased the powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I have one general observation to make, it was a small matter, and passed without much consideration.

667. That was the Act which released the Metropolitan Board of Works from the necessity of having the consent of the First Commissioner for all works over 50,000 *l.*, was it not?—Yes, I would only state that what I call the first limitation, still exists; that as they could only do it if all parties consented, it really amounted to very little power at all. The City could scarcely have objected if the First Commissioner thought fit to give the power of interfering in such cases.

668. *Chairman.*] Have you finished all the statements that you wish to make to the Committee?—Yes.

669. Mr. *Tite.*] Will you allow me, as a supplement to the noble Lord's question, to ask you whether you recollect the Building Act, which places all the power in the Metropolitan Board of Works, and takes it away from the Court of Alderman, the whole of the City being so placed under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I know the Building Act.

670. Is that so?—It was formerly the Court of Aldermen who appointed the district surveyors, and now it is done by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

671. *Chairman.*] Was the Building Act passed in the same year as that for establishing the Metropolitan Board of Works?—It was passed in the 18 & 19 Vict., the same year.

672. And the Metropolitan Board of Works is the exclusive local authority to carry out that Act?—I do not think there is anything that they can do themselves in the City, except to the appointing of district surveyors.

673. Have they not power of supervision over all the buildings in the metropolis under that Act, whether in the City, or anywhere else?—They appoint the surveyors, who have the supervision.

674. Lord *John Manners.*] Previous to that, in addition to the powers exercised by the City, were not considerable powers exercised by the Government and the First Commissioner of Works under the Building Act?—That was so.

675. Therefore, when the power was removed from the City of London, the power was also removed from the First Commissioner of Works, and vested in the Metropolitan Board of Works, was it not?—I think, if I were to examine that Act of Parliament, as I have the Act of 1855, I should find that there was very little power indeed in it.

676. Mr. *Tite.*] But is it not perfectly familiar to you that the superintending architect of the Metropolitan Board of Works is constantly called in to give an opinion upon the buildings in the City of London?—I should say not, because I should say there are very few cases of that sort; those are more with reference to improvements, or alterations, or new streets out of the City: I do not say that he cannot be called in.

677. Lord *John Manners.*] Would it be correct on the whole to say that, since the passing of the Act of 1855, where that Act has been departed from, the tendency has been to throw increased power into the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and to remove it from the hands of the First Commissioner of Works on the one side, and from the City of London on the other?—I feel some difficulty in answering general questions,

questions, without having looked at the particular cases; the limitation of the 50,000*l.* expenditure, as I have before said, seems to me to be a very small matter; and what we want to do before this Committee is to put a stop to those little sorts of encroachments, which are going on from time to time. We say we have the means of managing our own concerns, and we do not wish to be interfered with.

678. Mr. *Locke.*] What you wish is, that you should be as you used to be before the Metropolitan Board of Works was established?—Yes.

679. That is to say, you wish to regulate the whole of the affairs of the City of London, in fact; and not to be interfered with by them any more?—Yes.

680. But do you not think that in the case of improvements some inconvenience may arise from that; if the system of the improvement of the whole metropolis is suggested, can it be intrusted to two different bodies?—First of all, with regard to what I will call local improvements, I think we, on the one side, and all the parishes on the other, ought to be intrusted with them. If there is to be some great scheme (which I know nothing at all about) for the improvement of the metropolis, then I think it ought to be laid before Parliament; and both with reference to the mode of carrying it out, and with regard to the funds by which it is to be carried out, I think Parliament should determine that. But I think it would be very unfortunate if Parliament should grant greater powers of taxation, which now some parties are asking for, before they inform Parliament how they are going to spend the money. If any work is to be done, I hold that it should be brought before Parliament, and that Parliament should determine upon it.

681. But does not the law at present, with regard to the Metropolitan Board of Works, apply only to those great schemes? From the evidence we have had before this Committee, the Metropolitan Board of Works suggest a great scheme, and they tax the whole metropolis for the purpose of carrying it out; but with regard to any local improvement, that is left to the localities themselves, the Metropolitan Board of Works furnishing a third (I think it is) of the outlay?—There is no limit as to the amount they may contribute. I do not know whether I clearly comprehend the question. The local improvements are to be carried on by the localities, and the Metropolitan Board of Works may contribute a sum towards them, if they think fit; but they are not bound to do so.

682. But you are not aware of any great scheme being laid down at present by the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I am not aware of any such scheme.

683. But supposing there were such a thing, do you not think that the authority which carried it out in one part of the town should carry it out in the other?—I think a particular scheme should be laid before Parliament, and Parliament should determine. Supposing that this Committee should recommend that there should be other municipalities as well as the City of London, then there might be some deputations or some sections from those municipalities, and they together might be the bodies entrusted with it; but I do not think you could lay it down as a rule that any body should do any particular improvement until you know what the improvement is.

684. In point of fact, you would not entrust the Metropolitan Board of Works with any improvement whatever without the sanction of Parliament?—No; they have really not the power, except to do those little trifling improvements where everybody consents, except they come to Parliament.

685. There is the new street from Blackfriars to the Mansion House; that is entrusted to them by Parliament, is it not?—That was a scheme laid before Parliament by the Government of the day, and Parliament thought it ought to be made with the coal duties which were collected all over the metropolis. The Board were entrusted with the power of doing it, and if Parliament should have any other great scheme, and should like to give the coal duties, except the 4*d.*, which we say we ought to have to expend, they might do so; but if the work were to be executed in the City, I consider the Corporation ought to execute it.

686. But you would not leave it to the Metropolitan Board of Works, supposing they had the money, they having paid off the expenses for the Thames Embankment and its approaches, to carry out the new scheme; that is to come from the City?—I should not leave it to them, at all events until there is some great reformation of that Board. I will not go into that question; it is much better in the hands of the Chamberlain; but I quite think that the Committee will see that the City is not properly represented at the Board, if that Board is to continue; therefore what I say is, that until it is reformed, that Board certainly ought not to be trusted to spend our money.

687. Mr. *Tite.*] From the very first the City of London was represented on the Metropolitan Board of Works by three members, was it not?—Yes.

688. That is more than any vestry or any other body has, is it not?—It is the largest number, but if you look at the district represented and compare it with some of the other districts, it is a very imperfect representation, and I should think that it would never have been sanctioned, except that I feel no doubt that the City thought at the time it was simply that great drainage scheme, and they did not trouble themselves about it; but they never would have thought of having three representatives when Hampstead, for instance, has one, and some of the other small districts the same.

689. I do not know what the City thought at the time, but I suppose that getting three members and three intelligent men on the Board, they were very fairly represented on that Board, or they would have put five members on at the time, when the matter was under discussion, or they might have suggested seven if they pleased; however, there are three?—There are three.

690. You stated in the beginning of your evidence that power had been given to the Metropolitan Board of Works; that is a very proper phrase; in your experience has the Metropolitan Board of Works sought any of those things?—I should say, certainly. In the instance which I have been allowed to allude to, there has been a seeking of enormous powers by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

691. But do you not know, as a matter of fact, that that was a suggestion on the part of the Government, and not at all a suggestion of the Board, and that Mr. Goschen was to have brought

W. Corrie, Esq.

28 March 1867.

the Bill in?—I certainly did not know that. So far as my knowledge on the subject goes, it is quite the contrary; and I think that I may say that Mr. Goschen assured me, that he would not bring in a Bill of that kind, unless the City had the power of spending their share of the money.

692. Probably not; that would be perfectly reasonable?—That is all we ask for all through. We only ask for this; that if they were going to tax us they should let us spend our money. If they want contributions beyond our fair share, we may be prepared to give them, but we wish to manage our own affairs.

693. In fact, were not the new street and the embankment proposed by the Government, and put into the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works without their seeking it, on the grounds which you have yourself suggested?—The embankment, as the Chamberlain explained before, and as can be made more clear if necessary, was originally a suggestion by the City; it was afterwards adopted by the Government, and then it was carried out, out of the coal duties, which were paid by the whole metropolis.

694. If that was originally suggested by the City, would it not be more reasonable that the City should have carried it out rather than that it should have been put into the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and taken out of the hands of the City altogether?—I think so, but it was not done. Perhaps, on that point, I may say that a great many improvements which have been carried out, ultimately, have been suggested by the City. There have been two or three lately. The Traffic Bill, which is now before Parliament, arose out of a suggestion of the City. The City came for it, and then it was thought by the Committee that it ought to be a general measure, and so the embankment, and so Smithfield, and various other things have originated in the City, and have sometimes been carried out by the City, and sometimes by other bodies.

695. We do not consent, or at least I do not consent, as knowing something of these matters, that the City suggested the origin of the Thames Embankment; it was suggested by very different persons; but if your impression were true, it seems but reasonable that they should be employed to carry it out, rather than that it should be thrown into the hands of others?—I am not certain as to the year, but I think so long ago as 1842, a committee of the Corporation made a report upon that subject, recommending it, and it was only because the Crown interfered that it was not carried out then. I may not be well informed upon the subject, but I know that there is that report, for I have read it; that was 25 years ago.

696. With regard to the point which you have raised, that you think it unreasonable that the Metropolitan Board of Works should have the power of raising money, without knowing how they are going to spend it; have not the Corporation recently made a step in the same direction (it is quite true that they have improvements, which they have to pay for by monies to be provided out of the coal and wine duties) with reference to works which they have not even scheduled?—There is a very great distinction; if the City of London, or any other locality, come and ask for powers to raise money to spend, they themselves being the persons to spend it, I think that is very different from the Metropolitan Board of Works coming to ask to raise these enormous sums of money, and to spend them without the control of the persons who pay.

697. I do not apprehend that the Metropolitan Board of Works, in the large schedule which they have given of the improvements which are necessary all over the metropolis, and which it is quite obvious are necessary, can do that without the power of Parliament?—Of course they cannot.

698. Then in that particular will there be any injustice, the parties being represented?—I think that the representation at the Metropolitan Board of Works is a farce. First of all, we are not properly represented, then as to the vestries choosing the persons, there is not a direct representation, as there ought to be.

699. My question is this, the Board of Works, if they have funds for the great amount of improvements which they suggested, almost as soon as they were constituted, cannot carry any one of them without the power of Parliament authorising them to do so, whether in the City of London or anywhere else; is not that so, and must it not be so?—I do not clearly understand. I think the honourable Member puts the question in this way: Is it more unreasonable that this power of raising money should be given to the Board of Works than to the Corporation of London? My answer to it is this: First of all, I have told the Committee that the Corporation of London will now have some 11,000 or 12,000 persons, who will elect them, and the money will be spent in the City by the persons whom they elect. I cannot at all compare the two cases of the City with its 12,000 electors, taxing themselves and spending the money amongst themselves, and the Metropolitan Board of Works coming and raising this enormous sum of money. First of all the City, according to my notion, is not properly represented, if the mode of election were correct; but there is no representation I consider, in the proper meaning of the word, at all in the Metropolitan Board of Works; and therefore I think they ought not to be trusted with the control of such an expenditure.

700. That was not my question, nor had it that bearing; they may, or may not, be properly represented; but you mean this, that money raised in the City ought to be spent in the City, and that money raised elsewhere ought to be spent elsewhere?—That is one way of putting it, but I put it in this way: that the money raised in the locality ought to be spent in the locality; but if there be any great scheme required for the improvement of the metropolis, then I say that Parliament ought to say how that is to be raised. They may say that the City will benefit double as much as Hampstead, and that, therefore, the City ought to pay double the rate of Hampstead, and I think that that would be perfectly fair, and no doubt the citizens would be perfectly willing to do it.

701. Do you think that they would be willing to pay double or treble rates on other parts of the metropolis?—If Parliament thought that the improvement would be more to the interest of the City than on the other parts of the metropolis, they would be quite content that Parliament should fix the amount that they should pay, but they must spend the money themselves.

702. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You have been asked whether the Metropolitan Board of Works have been anxious to seek further powers, and to obtain further means of carrying out different matters

matters in this metropolis; with respect to the embankment and the new street, are you not aware that a Committee recommended that that should be carried out by a special commission in the first place?—That was so.

703. And that it was by the exertions of the Board of Works that they obtained the power of carrying out the embankment and the new street?—I was not a party to it, and therefore I cannot say.

704–5. But you understand that to be the fact?—That is the result of my reading and of what I have heard upon the subject; but in answer to the question of the honourable Member for Bath, my view with regard to the Board of Works is this: the Metropolitan Board of Works have done their great work, not suggested by them, but expressly named in the Act creating the Board; they have made the intercepting sewers; they have nearly got to the end of their labours, and they will be extinguished unless they can get something else to do; and therefore they are trying in all possible ways to get something else to do to keep them in existence.

706. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect to the Metropolitan Board of Works seeking further powers than they originally had, is it not a fact that they contested the point of making the new street from the Mansion House to Blackfriars very forcibly, and that they succeeded in their point to have it confided to them, rather than to the City, the funds in either case coming from the same source?—No doubt they wished it, or else they would not have had it. It is not in my power to speak as to what was the fact. I can only say what I have been told. I heard that there was a contest. I was not present at that contest before the Committee, and I can only speak of it as a matter of history.

707. Are you not aware that the Metropolitan Board of Works contested the Act of Parliament which placed the regulation of the gas meters in the hands of the City of London, and also in the metropolitan district in the hands of the Board of Works; and that they contested that Act, in order, if possible, to get the whole power in their hands?—I was not concerned in that Act, and I cannot speak to that.

708. Was that Act carried before you became the City Remembrancer?—Yes.

709. You are not aware of the facts of that case?—I am not aware of the facts of that case.

710. Or that after some considerable consultations, and the Government being applied to, the City were left to carry out the Act in their own area with respect to the gas meters?—I find that they were, because the Act expressly excludes the City of London.

711. Are you aware that the Metropolitan Board of Works brought in a Bill in order to prevent the City of London from carrying out the operation of the former Act, by limiting gas-meters to be stamped in the City to those made in the City, knowing that none were manufactured in the City?—I know as a matter of fact, that a great number of gas-meters are brought to the City to be tested.

712. Are you not aware that in respect to naming of streets, the Metropolitan Board of Works contested that, in opposition to the Commissioners of Sewers, before they gained the power in the City of London under the Act in which the Commissioners of Sewers read, that they had that power?—I have already given my opinion to the Committee upon that point, explaining how I thought it arose.

713. My question is, did not the Metropolitan Board of Works contest it with the City?—They contested it before the Court of Common Pleas.

714. Then they did seek for the power?—Yes; and it struck me that the judges rather censured them. It was what I call a very meddlesome piece of business, that they should interfere with that matter; but the judges found that by the words of the Act of Parliament the City was within the metropolis; and, therefore, they were obliged to hold what they did.

715. Are you not aware that the other day a great inconvenience arose upon that subject, the Metropolitan Board of Works having determined to join Cripplegate-buildings to Wood-street, and to make one street of those two streets; and that upon application from the City they refused to alter that determination; but that afterwards, when some of the great houses, such as Morley and Company, Wards, Brettles, and Munt & Brown, complained, and went and showed the difficulties which would arise all over the globe in consequence of the articles in which they dealt being all marked with the numbers of their warehouses in the street, they succeeded in inducing the Board of Works to alter their first determination?—I am not aware of those particular circumstances; but it would be obviously better to trust the citizens themselves with such a power of numbering their streets, than to let the Board in Spring Gardens do it, who cannot know anything at all of the subject.

716. And if that had been in the hands of the City, this difficulty would not have arisen?—No.

717. Do the Commissioners of Sewers possess more extensive power than the Metropolitan Board of Works, in order to carry out improvements that may be necessary?—Yes, they have compulsory powers; whereas the Metropolitan Board of Works have no compulsory powers, except for the main drainage; they had powers given to them for that.

718. The parish of St. Marylebone has similar powers to those of the Commissioners of Sewers, has it not?—Yes.

719. But the Commissioners of Sewers have been, I believe, the only body throughout the metropolis who have used those powers effectually for improvements?—I think so; but it is fair to say that I think that has arisen because the City requires it so much more; I should think that in St. Marylebone nothing of the sort would be wanted, and therefore they have not done it; but in the City of London it is wanted, and the power is exercised most extensively; and they have paid for their improvements themselves. Perhaps I may be allowed to point out one great thing which they have been doing, and which will very much facilitate another improvement which is going on; they have widened Newgate-street and several other places considerably, so that the expense of the scheme which is this year laid before Parliament for making Newgate-street a good wide street altogether will be almost trifling. I have seen the estimates. But that has arisen because the Commissioners of Sewers have taken the opportunity from time to time, when a house has been decayed, or has been down, and have stepped in and bought it, and prepared the way

W. Corrie, Esq.

28 March 1867.

for this great improvement, which has been assisted also by the Government with reference to the Post Office. They are going to make a new Post Office, and I negotiated that matter with the Government authorities, and it was agreed that we were to have, upon very reasonable terms as to price, the land upon the east end of Newgate-street for widening it; so that altogether that will come to a very small sum in carrying out the whole works, which will form a very great improvement.

720. Then the Metropolitan Board of Works, as I understand, have not only sought to get further powers than they originally had, but they have recently sought to prevent the City of London from gaining powers which they wished to obtain; I allude to the Improvement Rates Bill which has been referred to. Although in the City of London the whole amount of the property is rated at 2,100,000 *l.*, and not one of the owners of property petitioned against the Bill which was brought into the House of Commons to levy a rate of 6 *d.* in the pound upon that property to be spent in improvements within the area of the City of London, yet are you aware that the Metropolitan Board of Works put in an opposition, attended before this Committee by counsel, and succeeded in preventing the City from obtaining the power to raise that money by taxation in its own area, to be spent in its own area?—That certainly was so. They were the only persons who induced this Committee not to pass that Bill, or, I should rather not say, to throw out the Bill, for I consider that it is postponed, and if we should find it necessary to renew it, it will be renewed.

721. The Metropolitan Board of Works have sought to obtain further powers to prevent the City of London from carrying out improvements in its own area, have they not?—They have frequently done it, and I have frequently had to contest it before Committees of the House of Commons. They employ counsel, and whenever there is anything going on, in come the Board of Works with their clauses; and it is with the greatest difficulty that I can get my clauses in.

722. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] In fact, you complain of the existing jurisdiction of the Board of Works, and you want to oust that which militates against the jurisdiction of the Corporation?—I have pointed out how very trifling the real jurisdiction is; but in all those matters where they can interfere, they do interfere; and I think that this Committee ought to recommend that they should not be allowed any longer to interfere in such cases. Taking the case of the numbering of the streets; surely, I think that the Committee should recommend that should be taken from them.

723. Without reference to what this Committee ought to do, which, probably, it will judge for itself, I understand you to say, that you wish to oust from the City a jurisdiction which you think unfairly militates against the existing jurisdiction of the Corporation?—We wish to get rid of it, and so prevent its being extended.

724. You have stated that, by the Act of 1855, you think that the privileges of the City were only incidentally affected; if that is the case, how does the City come to be represented upon the Board at all?—Because the great object for which I consider that the Metropolitan Board of Works was established was to make the main drainage; it was to make it through the City, and the City was to contribute a considerable portion of the expense; and, therefore, it was necessary, for that alone, that they should be represented upon the Board.

725. Without going into the question of insufficient representation, which, I think, you wish us to get from the Chamberlain; if it can be shown that, according to the then rateable value and population of the City, the City have an approximately fair representation in comparison with the other districts of the metropolis, would not that go to show that Parliament contemplated the exercise of an identical authority by the Metropolitan Board of Works over the whole of the metropolis, including the City?—It is, perhaps, scarcely proper for me to say that I am sure that it cannot be that that was so; but I am very confidently of opinion that the matter was never so considered by the City at that time. We assume that it will be proved that the City is not properly represented. Now, I am quite sure, first of all, with regard to the population, that there has been no increase of the resident City population, as compared with other parts of the metropolis, and therefore we get rid of population as one of the ingredients in the matter. Then, I am very confident that it will turn out, with regard to the rateable value, that there has not been comparatively a great increase.

726. Then, as I understand it, what you mean is this, that the City, at the time of the passing of the Act of 1855, not believing that their interests were going to be so much affected as has turned out to be the case, did not press for that full representation which you think they would have obtained, and ought to have obtained?—I think that they did not contemplate the Metropolitan Board of Works going on, increasing and getting fresh powers from time to time; they thought that it was only for this main drainage, and all the comments on the Act of Parliament with which I have troubled the Committee at such great length, show that it related to places outside the City, and that the City had nothing to do with it. What have they to do with sitting upon committees of appeal, when there is no appeal from the City in any case? They did not want representation. If there were to be an appeal from the City, then they ought to have had their number increased to sit upon those Committees.

727. As it was, they were satisfied with an inadequate representation, not believing that their interests were going to be so largely affected?—I do not say they were satisfied; they think it ought now to be corrected.

728. *Chairman.*] You have spoken sometimes of the Corporation of London, and sometimes of the Commissioners of Sewers; are not the Commissioners of Sewers a body for certain purposes of local government in the metropolis, established under a comparatively recent Act of Parliament?—The Act of Parliament affecting the Commissioners of Sewers was passed in the year 1848, that is the Act under which they are acting.

729. Was that the Amendment Act?—No; the Amendment Act was passed later; the Amendment Act was passed in 1851.

730. Then, what was the body which was invested with authority by Michael Angelo Taylor's Act?—There had been a Commission of Sewers in the City of London long before this Act of Parliament was passed; I speak of this as

as being the Act relating to them. Now, Michael Angelo Taylor's Act did not specify the local authorities.

731. I think that you will find in the first or second clause who the local authorities were?—The copy of the Act which I have before me has not the first part; it does not contain every section; but my recollection is strong that it speaks of the local authorities, without specifying them.

732. How do you understand the power to have originated in the Commissioners of Sewers; was it for the first time given to them by the Act of 1848?—No; there was a Commission of Sewers long before this Act of Parliament, and the power was given to that authority, and it is continued under the present Commission.

733. You think that it was under Michael Angelo Taylor's Act, that the power was given to the Sewers Commission to make improvements?—Yes, that was the local authority in the City; I consider the Commissioners of Sewers to be merely a branch of the Corporation, because I will read to the Committee how the power arises. "That from and after the commencement of this "Act the sole power of ordering, designing, making, "enlarging, widening, deepening, raising, altering, "removing, repairing, cleaning and scouring all "common sewers, drains, and vaults, and of paving, "cleansing, lighting, and improving the several "streets within the City shall be, and the same is "hereby vested in the Mayor and Commonalty and "citizens of the City of London" (those are the words to which I call the attention of the Committee) "to be executed by such persons as by "the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the said "City in Common Council assembled, shall from "time to time be nominated, and under the "Common Seal of the Mayor, and Commonalty, "and citizens be appointed for that purpose." Therefore, I say, that the power is vested in the Corporation to be exercised by them, by persons whom they may appoint as Commissioners.

734. Mr. *Locke.*] They are all members of the Corporation, are they not?—Practically, I believe they are.

735. *Chairman.*] Are they required by law to be members of the Corporation?—They might appoint other persons, and I think some time ago there was a question whether an old gentleman who had left them should not be continued.

736. Are the Commissioners of Sewers themselves a Corporation for the purpose?—Yes, they are made a Corporation.

737. Then the power of conducting the local affairs of the City of London as regards cleansing, lighting, and improving, is vested in a Corporation called the Commission of Sewers?—The Act of Parliament says, that the powers shall be vested in the Corporation to be exercised by the persons whom they may appoint, and every year they appoint those persons.

738. Is that power exercised by the Commissioners of Sewers?—Yes.

739. Are they nominated by the Corporation of London?—Yes, they are; that is to say, it is vested in the Mayor, Commonalty, and citizens to be executed as they may appoint. A large body of 224 or 226 people cannot carry on works of this sort, and therefore committees are appointed, and this is a very large and important committee, as I consider, of the Corporation.

740. Is it a committee of the Corporation conducting its business in the name of the Corporation, or are the Commissioners of Sewers a Corporation in themselves, conducting their business in their own name?—No doubt of it.

741. And are they a Corporation by the name of the Commission of Sewers?—That is so.

742. And the members of that body constituted by Parliament for managing the local affairs of the City are nominated by the Mayor, Commonalty, and citizens of London?—That is so; and if they are discontented with the mode in which the business is carried out, they might repeal the commission and appoint a new one.

743. Can they cancel it at any moment?—They can, at any time. It says, "from time to time."

744. Is there any power of removal?—Practically, they are appointed once a year; but I have no doubt that they can be removed at any time, if the Corporation please.

745. But has the Corporation any power by law itself of superintending and repairing, cleansing and paving of the City of London, except through the intervention of another Corporation?—It is to be done by the Commissioners of Sewers.

746. And that new Corporation may or may not be members of the other Corporation?—They may appoint any persons they like. They might probably appoint three engineers.

747. Are the Commissioners of Sewers required to have any special qualification?—No; I believe that there are one or two persons who must be members. I find that the Lord Mayor, the Recorder, and the Common Serjeant are *ex officio* members.

748. And the Commissioners need not be ratepayers of the City of London even?—No; it seems to be an absolute power to entrust it to anybody they please; but, in practice, they are always members of the Court of Common Council.

749. And until the Bill passes, which is now before Parliament, the Corporation is not elected by the whole of the ratepayers of the City of London?—I think that they are about 6,000 or 7,000 at the present moment, and they will be doubled.

750. And then all the ratepayers will be entitled to elect?—All ratepayers who have the power of voting. Practically, I suppose that there are no small ratepayers, but every person who has the power of voting for Members of Parliament as an occupier will have the power of voting for municipal officers, and others who may not have the Parliamentary franchise.

751. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect to the conflicting jurisdiction in the City of London between the Metropolitan Board of Works and the corporate authorities, is it not a fact that in the City of London there are a number of matters over which the authorities in the City have control, while outside there is nothing identical to that jurisdiction, such as the police, the gaols, the lunatic asylums, and the magistracy, in the City; have the Metropolitan Board of Works, outside, any authority identical in those respects with the authority in the City within their jurisdiction?—Certainly not.

752. Take the case of the police, which was contested some years ago. It was determined that the City were to retain their police; the Metropolitan Board of Works has never had anything to do with the police question; so that there is a number of matters under the control of the Corporation of the City of London,

W. Corrie, Esq.

28 March 1867.

London, with which there is nothing identical outside their limits under the control of the Board of Works?—That is so.

753. So that the conflicting jurisdiction of identical authority could only be to a limited extent?—I have endeavoured to point out to the Committee how small it is.

754. *Chairman.*] Are the gaols and other matters under the control of the Corporation of London, or are they under the control of the justices of the peace for the county of the City of London?—They are under the control of the Court of Aldermen, as justices, but were erected by the Corporation.

755. Are they not under the control of the justices of the county of the City of London, in the same way as the gaols of Middlesex are under the control of the justices of the county of Middlesex?—That is so.

756. And the lunatic asylums also?—That is so, but it was erected by the Corporation.

757. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is that so?—The aldermen as justices exercise this power over the gaols.

758. I believe outside the City of London the lunatic asylum has been built by a county rate, raised by the justices, while inside the City of London the building has been raised by money voted by the Commonalty of the City of London, and also the gaols?—That is so; and that calls to mind the fact that the City of London pays very large sums of money for the administration of justice of the whole district within the Central Criminal Court. Newgate has been built by the City of London; the Chamberlain will be able to state the amount, but it is a very large sum which is paid annually by the City for the administration of justice, not merely in the City, but also over the whole extent of the metropolis.

759. *Chairman.*] The jurisdiction of the justices with regard to the lunatic asylum, however it may have been built, is precisely the same, is it not, as the jurisdiction of the justices with regard to the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum?—Yes; the aldermen retain that function.

760. Mr. *Kekewich.*] Do the aldermen form part of the visiting justices of the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum?—Not as aldermen. I think many of the aldermen are justices of the county of Middlesex.

761. Mr. *Tite.*] You have urged once or twice the offensiveness of the power to name streets, and so on, being vested in the Metropolitan Board of Works; do you mean to suggest that the Metropolitan Board of Works go wandering about to exercise that power offensively?—It really does seem to me, I must say they do.

762. Are not the facts these: that some parties thought that the street which was continuous should have the same name throughout, and applied to the Metropolitan Board of Works that it should be done; that the Metropolitan Board of Works thought it should be so, and that they ordered or authorised a change to be made; that an appeal was made, and a motion was made by one of the Members for the City, whom you know very well; and that on the representation which has been referred to by the worthy alderman on my left, the matter was given up?—I do not know it as a fact, but I think the statement you make is a strong proof that the Board ought to have nothing to do with it, and that it ought to be entrusted to parties who do understand it.

763. In this case the Board listened attentively to the complaint, and the amendment was moved and carried, was it not?—So I understand, but if it had been left to the City authorities the alteration would not have been attempted.

764. Do you imagine that the Board of Works ought to have the management of the Fire Brigade, or was it not suggested to them, and were they not asked to undertake it by the Government of the day?—I should fancy the suggestion was made by the insurance offices. I think they ought not to have been allowed to get rid of the expense.

765. Then you do not know that the suggestion was made by the Government of the day?—I do not.

766. With regard to another Act of Parliament which has been talked of (I will not say brought in), namely, the Gas Act, by which the whole power is vested in the Metropolitan Board of Works; do you imagine that the Metropolitan Board of Works sought it?—My own opinion is that they are seeking to get power wherever they can.

767. Do you know it?—I firmly believe their powers are drawing to a close, and they are very anxious (I do not mean the honourable Member) to have something to do, or they will find their occupation gone.

768. But in those two cases which are rather important ones, you do not know, you say, that the Government have actually applied to them, and urged them to undertake those very important duties?—I do not.

769. Mr. *Locke.*] If the Corporation of London were extended throughout the whole metropolis, would it not remove all the difficulties of which you complain?—Am I to understand the honourable Member's question to mean that there should be one great Corporation for the metropolis?

770. Supposing you divided the whole metropolis into wards, and had your Lord Mayor, and had an alderman and common councillors for each ward; would not that get rid of every one of the difficulties of which you complain, with regard to the clashing of the authorities of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and of the City of London, which is so much complained of on the part of the City of London?—If there were one Corporation, and that Corporation had power over the whole district, of course that would be so.

771. And if they were selected by the people it would get rid of the difficulty of which you complain, that the Metropolitan Board of Works is not now properly elected by the ratepayers; then this Board, or you may call it a Corporation, would be elected by the ratepayers?—There is not the slightest doubt that would be so.

772. And all the powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works at present existing would be vested in that Corporation. Can you see any difficulty in the way except it be this, that there is a large property vested in the Corporation which they do not like to use for the benefit of the whole metropolis, but would rather keep to themselves; and is not that the objection to that proposition?—I think the question implies something that is rather unfair to the Corporation; I believe I have shown that the Corporation do apply their monies for the benefit of parties outside, but I have not considered the subject, and I do not know what their opinion would be upon that; very likely they might say that they think it is a very good scheme.

773. Do you not think it is worth their while to consider that question of extending the Corporation of London throughout the whole metropolis, and so getting rid of all those difficulties, such as when you propose a Bill before a Committee the Board of Works opposes you; and when the Board of Works proposes a Bill you oppose the Board of Works; the expense incurred first of all by the Board of Works, and then by the City of London, being borne ultimately by the ratepayers of the metropolis?—Practically it is so.

774. Do you not think that it would be advantageous for the City of London to consider this great scheme, which probably, as you are aware, I have suggested for the last 10 years, and so to get rid of all these difficulties?—I am quite sure they would be very willing to consider it, but what would be the ultimate conclusion at which they would arrive I cannot say.

775. Mr. *Mill.*] Supposing that what the honourable Member for Southwark has proposed, namely, to have but one municipality for the whole metropolis, were thought to impose too much upon one body, and that instead of that every one of the Parliamentary districts of London were made a municipality by itself, there being also a general body which represented the City fairly, as well as each of those municipal bodies, and which might take the place of the Metropolitan Board of Works, would not that remove all difficulties?—That would be my own opinion; I think that such an enormous Corporation as that suggested by the honourable Member for Southwark, would be unworkable, and difficulties would arise from the localities not being attended to, whereas if the municipalities were scattered about, each would attend to its own local wants, and then there might be some such plan as is suggested by the honourable Member of forming a board, in which all would have confidence.

776. Mr. *Locke.*] Would you have 10 mayors in London?—No; but you might have 10 mayors and one Lord Mayor.

777. Mr. *Mill.*] Supposing that each of those municipalities, the City included, had the control of the numbering and the naming of the streets, and all matters of that extremely local character, and that matters which were regarded as concerning the metropolis generally were put in the hands of a representative body, so constituted that every one of the municipalities, the City including, should be duly and fairly represented in it, do you think that all the powers of the Board of Works should be transferred to this body; and that, in fact, the Board of Works might in some measure be considered as merging in it; would such an arrangement meet your views, and do you think that it would be acceptable to the City?—I have no means of ascertaining what would be acceptable to them; but I think if you had municipalities in the way suggested by the honourable Member, the work of any great board would be very little; indeed, I think it would resolve itself, principally, perhaps, into the entertainments and matters of that sort, and you might very well leave that where it is; but such a board as is suggested, with representation by municipalities in a sort of federal council, might work.

778. You do not think that there are any circumstances sufficiently common to the whole metropolis to be properly transferred to that central body, except the duty of giving entertainments?—In my own opinion I think not. I think most of those things which the Metropolitan Board of Works execute would be better done generally by the Corporation of London and those other municipalities. Supposing there were a municipality for Westminster, for instance, they could attend to all the matters there, and I almost think myself, although of course it is merely my private opinion, that for any great undertakings you might come to Parliament on each occasion.

779. *Chairman.*] Do you think it would be desirable to have 10 or 12 chief commissioners of police and 10 or 12 police forces in the metropolis?—I give no opinion upon that. I think we have a capital police force in the City. We manage it very well, and we work it very well with the metropolitan police; but whether you could extend that is a different question, and I have not considered that question.

780. Do you think, having regard to the supply of gas and water to the metropolis by companies which have not powers which are conterminous with any particular district, that it would be desirable to have each local authority in the metropolis exercising an independent power in relation to those matters?—I think it desirable, if it could be carried out, that the City should have the power of managing its own gas and all that. How it is to be done outside I do not know.

781. My question was whether it would be desirable, in your opinion, to have in each of the municipal districts which you have proposed in relation to such matters as gas and water, a separate and independent authority, those municipal districts not being conterminous with the Parliamentary powers possessed by those companies?—I think so. Take the case of gas in the City of Westminster; supposing that to be made a municipality, it might manage its own gas affairs very well.

782. Do you think that it would be a convenient arrangement that the gas works should be under the authority of one board; that its mains should be under the authority of another board; that its distributing pipes should be under the authority of two or three boards, and that the illuminating power and quality of the gas should be subject to the independent authorities of all the five or six boards?—I think that the plan proposed by the Government in their scheme of this year is a very good scheme with regard to gas. That is not before the Committee, but that, I think, would work very well.

783. Then do you think that if there is a great thoroughfare running from the east to the west of London, and any matters arise with regard to keeping up that communication, each section of it should be subject to an independent authority which may act without any relation to the others?—I do not think that there would be any practical difficulty.

784. Do you think if there were a great procession, for instance, or a great number of conveyances passing through a great thoroughfare, that every section of it should be subject to an independent authority to make what arrangements it pleased with reference to the wants of the thoroughfare?—That again depends upon the size of the authority. I think if there were very minute divisions, supposing it were divided into parishes for instance, it would not do; but if you

W. Corrie, Esq.

28 March 1867.

come to establish municipalities there would be no difficulty, for example, in Westminster and London working together, supposing a procession were coming from the City to Westminster Hall.

785. Would your view be that the evil is diminished in proportion to the extent of the area of administration?—You may carry it to too great an extent; but taking those two cases which I have put of the City of London and the City of Westminster, there would be no difficulty.

786. Then it is a question of degree?—It is a question of degree.

787. Then if there should be a great fall of snow in the metropolis which blocks up the metropolis, would it be a convenient thing that each local authority should be using its powers such as they are, each in its own way, and that there should be no general power which should ensure the main thoroughfares being immediately cleared?—The City have that power, and in the late great snowstorm they exercised it; they cleared their streets, and there was no difficulty. In the other parts of the metropolis where the parishes have it, I believe there was a difficulty. In the second snowstorm it was astonishing how the whole of the snow was taken away in the City. They put an immense force to work, and the whole was cleared away in a few hours.

788. Is it not a fact, that you cannot find a power in the metropolis to clear away the snow in the metropolis generally; but, however great the fall might be, you could find a power to clear the main thoroughfares if you combine for the purpose?—I see no reason why different localities might not do it.

789. Is there any use in clearing the City as completely as possible, if all the main thoroughfares leading to the City are not cleared?—I should hope those municipalities would do the same in their district as we do in the City, and then the whole thing would work well.

790. But if each municipality is to have the power to do as it pleases, how are you to have that concentration of power which is necessary to deal with emergencies?—Take the case of snow; we in the City did clear it; if Westminster had done the same, why should they not have cleared the Strand to Whitehall?

791. Westminster might think, having regard to its local interests, that Park-lane was more interesting to the inhabitants of Belgrave-square and Hanover-square, than the street leading to the Strand, and might have concentrated their power upon another thoroughfare; how are you to prevent that unless you have a controlling authority which shall determine which are main thoroughfares, and main arteries of communication?—I think there would be no difficulty in determining as a positive rule, that in the case of a great snow storm, certain streets should be cleared, and that it should be the duty of Westminster, for instance, to clear the streets to the Houses of Parliament first, and then to do the others afterwards.

792. In other words, you think it ought to be compulsory on the other bodies to do what is necessary for the convenience of getting to the City?—Not for the convenience of the City, but for the convenience of all that great army of people who come every day into the City.

793. Would there be any use in clearing all the bye-streets of the City, as compared with clearing the main streets of the metropolis in point of time, as to the access to the railway stations, for instance?—No doubt; but when you talk about bye-streets, of course there is hardly a street in the City which is not very important to the traffic of the metropolis. Take Wood-street, and some of those which are small streets with an immense quantity of traffic, which is necessarily there every day; it would be difficult to say which was the more important, Wood-street or Fleet-street.

794. You have some doubt about that, have you?—I think they ought both to be done. If you cannot get into Wood-street, you stop an immense deal of most important traffic.

795. Mr. *Locke.*] Wood-street and Queen-street, I believe, are the only two streets all the way from St. Paul's to the Mansion House, with the exception of King-street, in which two carriages can pass one another?—I think so, but I will hand in a list.—(*Vide* Appendix.)

796. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you not think that, on the supposition which I have referred to, it would still be necessary to have some central body which was bound to look after the interest of the whole metroplis, and which should have the power of compelling those municipalities to do their duty in any such cases as clearing the streets, supposing they neglected or omitted to do it?—I certainly think it would be an advantage to have some authority to compel those who neglected their duties to perform them.

797. *Chairman.*] In the event, for instance, of a pestilence, like the cholera, appearing, do you think it would be desirable that there should be a general power to bring to bear the remedies and arrangements of the metropolis, or that every local authority should have an independent power?—With regard to the cholera, we have had experience of it this last year, and the City have been most successful in carrying out their regulations to prevent its spreading. I should think some general orders issued from the authority in Whitehall would probably be better than anything else in that particular instance.

798. Then, the general authority there would be that of the Privy Council rather than the central authority of the metropolis?—Yes; there would be no objection, I am certain, on the part of the City to obey orders in such a case as that; but there would be very few orders that would be necessary for them to issue. To carry them out, you must go to the locality after all.

799. Are we to have evidence from Mr. Scott about what is called the representative power on the part of the Metropolitan Board?—Yes.

800. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect to the Board of Conservancy, you are aware, I believe, that the Lord Mayor is chairman of that Board by its constitution, and that certain members of the Corporation are representatives there?—Yes.

801. Are you aware that the Metropolitan Board of Works have been seeking and trying, if possible, to get representatives at that Board?—I am aware of that; and that they have failed in doing so.

802. *Chairman.*] Can you give the Committee any reason why the Corporation of London should be represented on the Board of Conservancy any longer?—They were the original Conservators altogether, and they have been continued, and other parties have been joined with them.

803. It is an association of the past, in point of fact?—Probably that is one reason; I do not

not think those associations are altogether to be neglected.

804. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] But the Lord Mayor is by Act of Parliament Chairman of the Conservancy Board, is he not?—Yes.

805. The City have jurisdiction over two bridges over the Thames, have they not?—Yes. Perhaps I may be permitted to mention one thing which occurs to me now, which the City are doing this year. The Act of Parliament is nearly passed by which they have purchased Southwark Bridge, and it is to be thrown open to the public toll free.

806. *Chairman.*] Is it accurate to say that the Corporation have purchased it, or is it not rather purchased out of the estates which were given and dedicated and held for the maintenance of London Bridge, which are trust property, and which do not belong to the Corporation in their own right?—That is a trust property.

807. And, therefore, it is an appropriation by Parliament of trust property for the purposes for which it was originally given, is it not?—It is done at the suggestion of the City of London.

808. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] But did not the Corporation of London, being anxious to have that bridge toll free, agree to raise money upon the estates of this trust, and to pledge their own property also as security for this money, to enable them to throw this bridge open to the public?—Yes; I may state that, for all those improvements the City are obliged to pledge their estates as security, or else they could not get the money.

809. *Chairman.*] Do you think it would be an economical arrangement if that part of the trust estates, which has arrived at its full value, was sold, and the money applied for the payment of the debts, the larger expenditure incident to the management of these estates by the Corporation being saved?—The expense is not large, it is a mere trifle; the management scarcely costs anything. With regard to the sale, I should think it a very imprudent thing to do. Supposing this sort of notion had occurred 30 or 40 years ago, and the estates had been sold then, you would not have got half what you would get now, and, if things go on as they have been going on of late years, this property will gradually increase in value; and, therefore, I think that the sale of those estates is strongly to be deprecated.

810. But is there not a part of the estates which is fully improved?—It is very difficult to know when an estate is fully improved, because the value of land all over the country has increased so much, and goes on increasing in such a way that it is difficult to know when that time arrives.

811. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you aware that the Aldermen are *ex officio* trustees of the River Lea navigation?—I am not aware of that; but I know the Corporation have property in the River Lea, because I have always notice from parties proposing to deal with it in any way.

812. The Metropolitan Board of Works are not represented on that trust, are they?—Certainly not.

813. The new market, called "Smithfield Market," is situate out of the jurisdiction of the City of London, but is under their control. Are there any markets in the metropolitan district that are under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—No.

814. Then is it the case that no rivers, markets, or bridges, are under the control of the Board of Works?—That is so. I do not think you can compare the two at all. I should be very sorry, on the part of the City of London, to institute such a comparison.

815. *Chairman.*] If you think it desirable that there should be a general corporation, then would you think it desirable also that matters connected with rivers and markets, and other matters of that sort, should be referred to that corporation?—Take Smithfield Market, for instance; the City stepped in there, and pledged their estates, and they have for years been carrying on that market to the advantage of the public, at an enormous expense. You certainly would not think of interfering in such a case as that till they have repaid themselves; and I cannot see why, when a thing is well managed, it should not be left where it is.

816. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are the courts of law at Westminster under the management of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—No.

817. Are the courts of law in the City under the control of the City, for the purpose of keeping them up and keeping them in repair?—That is so; they are the property of the Corporation.

818. *Chairman.*] They are in the same position in that respect as the justices of quarter sessions in another county, are they not?—The courts of justice in the City belong to the Corporation, and in the counties they belong to the counties.

819. Mr. *Locke.*] The City is a county of itself, is it not?—The aldermen have not the whole control over the courts of justice.

820. *Chairman.*] The Corporation of London in these respects would appear to be in the position of the other corporations of the county before they were properly reformed by the Municipal Corporations Act, is not that so?—It was found so perfect that it was not reformed. We from time to time reform ourselves, as we are doing this year, and there will be no corporation with such an elective franchise as we shall have.

821. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With regard to the courts of criminal justice in the City, I believe they are courts for criminal justice for portions of the five metropolitan counties, are they not?—Yes.

822. And are not the expenses of keeping up those courts, and of providing properly for the administration of justice, all borne by the Corporation?—That is so.

823. Mr. *Tite.*] Who pays for the dinners to the judges?—Those are paid for by the Lord Mayor and sheriffs.

Benjamin Scott, Esq., called in; and Examined.

824. *Chairman.*] Are you desirous of giving the Committee some information with reference to the local government of the metropolis, and its relations to the City of London?—I have been requested by the Committee of the Corporation who are watching the proceedings of this Committee, to give evidence upon two points, if it is agreeable to the Committee; first, with reference to some evidence given before the Committee respecting the City Police, and then, if it were desirable,

B. Scott, Esq.

28 March 1867.

desirable, on the subject of the Metropolitan Board of Works and the municipal government of the metropolis.

825. Will you be good enough to make your statement first with reference to the City Police?—On the 23rd of July last Mr. Edwin Chadwick was examined before this Committee, and at Question 6541 he stated, "I observe that the City Police is mentioned as an example of good management as compared with the Metropolitan Police. Now I know that crime is greater, and detection is less frequent there than in other parts of the metropolis, and of all the police in the metropolis, they are in the worst condition. The separation greatly hinders the action of the general police, and when I looked at the subject I found that the extra cost to the citizens was 20,000*l.*; quite enough, when properly applied to have trained and educated all the ragged neglected children running about the City, and to save them from becoming a chief object of the labours of the police, and a chief supply of the population of the prisons." Mr. Alderman Lawrence then asked this question: "When you say that crime is greater in the metropolis than elsewhere, do you make that statement with reference to the statistics of population" (A.). "It is greater in proportion to the population and property. I can give you a statistical return proving that result (*vide* Appendix)." The appendix was then put in by Mr. Chadwick, and is found in the Committee's Second Report, 1866, at page 277. The appendix is numbered 7. "Paper handed in by Mr. Edwin Chadwick. Comparative cost and results of the Metropolitan and the City Corporation Police Forces. Statistical return referred to in answer to Question 6542." If the Committee will allow me the opportunity, I will read such parts of the appendix and paragraphs as I think it desirable to direct their attention to, and to furnish the answer of the City in the matter. The first extract is as regards the cost: "This expenditure for the Metropolitan Police, amounting to 400,389*l.*, divided by 6,116, the number of the metropolitan police force in the metropolitan divisions, exclusive of those employed in the dockyards and war department stations, gives an annual cost of 65*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* for each man, and the expenditure for the City police, amounting to 48,172*l.*, divided by 608, the number of the City police, gives an annual cost for each man of 79*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* The cost of each man is, therefore, 13*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, or 21 per cent. higher in the City police. The difference of cost thus shown arises partly from the higher rate of pay, and cost of clothing, equipments, &c., amounting to 7*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* per man, and the remainder is from the greater expense of the establishment for the management of the City police. The additional cost thus caused to the City on the whole number of the City police amounts to 8,370*l.* a year more than it would be if the pay, expenses, and management were according to the metropolitan scale. The additional cost to the metropolitan district on the whole number of the Metropolitan Police, if the pay, expenses, and management were according to the City scale, would be 84,196*l.* a year more than it now is, which sum may therefore be considered as so much saved by the more economical administration of the metropolitan establishment." That is the first allegation to which I desire to reply. The excess is not 20,000*l.*, as stated by Mr. Edwin Chadwick in his evidence, but Sir Richard Mayne's letter, here quoted, puts it at 8,370*l.* a-year. The statement is, first of all, incorrect in putting the total cost of the Metropolitan Police at 400,389*l.* It is 72,588*l.* more than that, according to the returns made to Parliament that year, and according to the returns which are published by the Home Secretary in the "Judicial Statistics." It is also necessary to ascertain the correct cost of that police, to add another sum of 1,171*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* for retiring allowances, in the Commissioners' and Receivers' departments.

826. Have you the Parliamentary accounts with you?—I have not the accounts before me; I have the "Judicial Statistics;" I should state that they were the figures for the year 1861. The letter of Sir Richard Mayne is dated 1863, but the figures refer to the year 1861. I have the figures of Sir Richard Mayne, to show why he makes those deductions; he deducts, first of all, for medical attendance, and medicines for destitute prisoners, 1,099*l.* 17*s.*; for horses, forage, saddlery, &c., 8,491*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, for erection and purchase of premises (that is for stations) 15,179*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*; for refreshments for destitute prisoners, and other small contingencies (and I find that small contingencies include searching female prisoners, candles for stations, sawdust, and straw for prisoners, washing towels, &c.), 1,323*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*; extraordinary expenses incurred in the pursuit, apprehension, and conveyance of prisoners, 3,415*l.* 5*s.*; expenses and allowances on special occasions, and on duties out of the district, 805*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*; deficiency of police superannuation fund, 42,242*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* Those sums which I have read, make up 72,558*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*, which Sir Richard Mayne claims to abate from the total expense of the police, before he divides that total by the number of men, to ascertain the cost per man of his force. To that sum, I add 1,171*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, which ought to have been added to the 72,588*l.*, to ascertain the total cost of the Metropolitan Police for the year 1861; that gives 474,118*l.* as the total cost which, divided by 6,116, the number of men, gives 77*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* per head, instead of 65*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* per head, which is Sir Richard Mayne's alleged cost. I should state that the whole of those items are common to the two forces of the metropolis and the City, with the exception of horses. Medical attendance is furnished to the prisoners in all the stations when they require it, and to destitute persons, and to those who are brought in drunk, or in ill health. Stations are purchased or erected within the City at the expense of the police-rate, or are rented at the expense of the rate, and the rent is very heavy indeed of property in the City. Refreshments are furnished to destitute prisoners; female prisoners are searched by females; candles, and all other necessaries are furnished out of the rate. Extraordinary expenses are incurred for the pursuit and apprehension and conveyance of prisoners, and occasionally expenses are incurred out of the district. With respect to horses, there is no mounted police in the City; it is not desirable that there should be; in the more rural parts of the Metropolitan Police district horses are used to economise men; the patrols are very long, and so horses are used, and they economise the number of men. In making a comparison between the two forces, if horses are used, there are less men required; if more men were put on horses would not be necessary; and I contend that it is not even necessary to deduct that sum in

in making a comparison between the two forces. In respect to the City Police, to consider which I now proceed, the total cost in 1861 was not 48,172 *l.*, as stated, but 49,003 *l.*, according to the printed accounts of the City; the police force was not 608, but 628 men in 1861; dividing that sum by the number of men, the cost per head, in the City, was 78 *l.* 0 *s.* 7 *d.*, being 10 *s.* 2 *d.* per policeman more than the Metropolitan Police, and not 13 *l.* 5 *s.* 4 *d.* per head, or 21 per cent., as stated. But from that year's account 600 *l.* might be deducted, which was expended in making telegraphic communication between all the stations in the City, so that all the stations should be connected with the central office. In that case the Metropolitan Police would be shown to be dearer by 8 *s.* 11 *d.* per man than the City Police. I need not state, then, that the additional cost of 8,370 *l.* has no existence in reality, and that the one police is not in effect more expensive than the other. The City policemen are an inch higher in the standard than the Metropolitan police, and they are generally a better class of men; they are paid a little higher wages; but the other expenses being not so great, one force is about on a par with the other as regards the expense per constable. Indeed, the two forces are now brought so nearly into accord that it is almost impossible that there should be any great difference between the cost of the one and the cost of the other. The next paragraph is to this effect: "The cost of the maintenance of the police, considered as a tax per head of the whole population of each district, is, in the metropolitan district, 2 *s.* 10 *d.*, and in the City 8 *s.* 4 *d.*, or 194 per cent. higher in the City." This the Committee will see is a fallacy, as measuring crimes by the population of the City. It assumes that all the crime is committed by 113,390 night residents, who were found there at the time of the census; and it ignores the whole day population of the City, which is very busy, and immersed in money making, and subject to many temptations to forgery, fraud, and embezzlement, and it ignores about 700,000 people who come into the City to transact business during the day. It ignores altogether the fact, that a very large proportion indeed of the City police (I have not been able to ascertain how many it was in 1861, but it is now 81 men out of 600) are detailed wholly to the different crossings of the City to keep the traffic from coming to a deadlock; that is to say, those 81 men are not at all employed in detecting crime or preventing it, but are wholly employed in keeping the streets, where there is a crossing, free, as much as possible from traffic, for the convenience of the public. But assuming that all the force were employed in detecting or preventing crime, and not making any allowance for the exceptional state of the City, but dividing the 283,000 residents of the City according to the day-census by the number of policemen, it would give 3 *s.* 1¼ *d.* per head of the population instead of 8 *s.* 4 *d.*, or if you take the City population, adding some of the frequenters to it, at 500,000 persons, the police in the City would cost 1 *s.* 11½ *d.* instead of 8 *s.* 4 *d.* per head of the population. Treating the metropolitan population in the same way, and deducting from the metropolis what has been added to the City, the result would be that the metropolitan police costs per head of the population 3 *s.* 2¾ *d.*, and the City costs 1 *s.* 11½ *d.*, the difference being 1 *s.* 3¼ *d.* in favour of the City. I do not lay any great stress upon the figures, and I do not wish the Committee to understand that I lay any great stress upon these statistics as regards the efficiency or the economical management of the City police, but I say that Sir Richard Mayne's statement is utterly unjustifiable, and that there is no foundation whatever for the statement that one police force is extravagant and the other so economical. The next paragraph in the Appendix measures the cost by the houses in the City. "The cost as a tax for each house, inhabited and uninhabited, is, in the metropolitan district, 19 *s.* 0½ *d.*, in the City 3 *l.* 2 *s.* 10 *d.*, or more than 200 per cent. higher in the City." The figures upon which Sir Richard Mayne bases this statement about the inhabited houses are incorrect by a thousand houses; but however that may be, this statement again is quite fallacious. In measuring houses as a *fiscal* matter of what the police costs, you must measure the value of the houses. Now the houses in the City are each worth 136 *l.* annually on an average. The houses in other parts of the metropolis are so low in value as to be worth only 13 *l.* in annual value, for instance, in Bethnal-green. In St. James's, Westminster, the houses are even higher in value than they are in the City. As the result of this calculation, if you measure the houses in the City by the common measure of 13 *l.*, instead of there being 15,000 houses, they actually mount up to 162,300 houses; therefore it shows that measuring by houses of such different values, the result must be entirely fallacious. The value of the houses in the metropolis, I may say in passing, depends upon the districts in which they are situated. According to the tables laid before Parliament last year, called the "Electoral Returns," there are in the Tower Hamlets 15,644 houses between 4 *l.* and 10 *l.* annual value. In the City and liberties there are only 133 houses under 10 *l.* annual value, and therefore it is impossible to contrast the cost of the police and to measure it by houses, because in one part of the metropolis they are 10 times the value which they are in others. The same "Electoral Returns" of last Session, which were laid before the House of Commons, inform us in a note, under the head of the City of London that there are 1,600 houses in the City which are let out in blocks of offices. Some of those blocks of houses in the City contain during the day many hundreds of persons. There is Gresham House, and the East India Avenue,—which is so well known to the Honourable Member for Bath,—which in the day are filled with inhabitants, and in the night they are regarded as empty, because they are locked up. They are treated in the census returns as empty, and the inhabitants do not appear in the census returns. I may give to the Committee the figures which I have ascertained, based upon the last rental returns of the metropolis; that a house in St. James's, Westminster, is equal in value to 10¾ houses in Bethnal-green, a house in the City is equal to 10½ houses in Bethnal-green, a house in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields is equal to nine such houses. I therefore say that, to measure the cost of the police by the value of houses, when the values differ so very greatly, must produce very fallacious results.

827. Mr. *Locke.*] How is the value of houses measured by Sir Richard Mayne?—He takes an incorrect number of houses: taking, I presume, the houses which have inhabitants in them. He treats the number as being about 14,000, and he divides the cost of the City police amongst those houses,

B. Scott, Esq.

28 March 1867.

houses, without taking into account that, as a fiscal matter, they are all of them four or five times as valuable as in average houses in other parts of the metropolis.

828. How does that bear upon the fiscal question at all?—He is measuring the cost of the City police by the houses, and I state that the houses in the City are so large and so valuable, that it is fallacious to measure the cost of the police to the citizens by the number of their houses without taking into account the fact, that those houses are four times as large as the average houses in the metropolis; and I say that the police does not cost anything like as much per house. He states that the expense is 200 per cent. higher in the City; but I state that the value of the houses is 400 per cent. greater in the City than in the metropolis, and therefore, the cost is 200 per cent. less per house in the City. If you measure anything, it must be by a common measure to obtain a fair result; if you measure by houses, you must take the average value of the houses.

829. You say that your houses in the City, being very valuable houses, require more policemen to look after them?—I have not said that at present, but that is the case no doubt.

830. Does not Sir Richard Mayne say that there are only so many houses in the City, and that there are so many more houses in other places, but that the number of the police in the City is greater?—He says that the cost is greater; he says in effect that it is an extravagant police, and that it costs 200 per cent. higher in the City, measured by houses. I reply that you must ascertain what a house is worth to measure the cost of its watching; you must obtain a common measure.

831. Does it give a policeman more trouble to look after a house which costs a great deal of money, than it does to look after one that costs very little; does not it depend upon the number of people in it, and whether they are disagreeable people or well-behaved people?—A house that is let out into 20 or 30 tenements would require a great deal more watching than a house which is in a single occupation.

832. And it also depends upon the class of people inside them, does it not?—I contend that the class of houses in the City is such that to measure the cost of police by them without ascertaining their size or their value will produce a very fallacious result.

833. Lord *John Manners.*] Would you not wish to qualify your last answer by saying that something must depend upon the nature of the property within the house?—That is so.

834. Have there not been instances within the City, in which at night, for instance, a house has been left totally unoccupied, and yet from the value of the property inside the house a very considerable amount of watching was required?—That is so; I am not at the moment addressing myself to that argument, but there are in fact 2,000 houses left every night to the charge of the police in the City, very many of them being filled with the most valuable contents, and that is one of the reasons why more policemen are required. I was at the moment only directing myself to what appeared to be a fallacious statement on the part of Sir Richard Mayne.

835. Mr. *Mill.*] In making a comparative estimate per head of the City police and the general police of the metropolis you contended with great reason that the population of the City ought not to be counted merely as a population which sleep there and are reckoned in the census, but that the day population should be taken into account; but is it not carrying that argument rather too far when you contend that those frequenting the City besides being added to the population of the City should be subtracted from the population of the remainder of the metropolis, because although they may frequent the City, still they live and pass the greater part of their time in some other district; and consequently do you not think that they ought to be counted both as the population of the City and also as the population of the metropolis generally?—I have considered, after a great deal of thought upon the subject, that first a portion of them ought to be added to the City (not the whole of them), that the City population should then be added to that of the Metropolis; and that then you should deduct from the whole those who will be absent in another place. They cannot be in both places at once.

836. They could not be in two places at once; but they could be in the City during a part of their time and elsewhere during another part, and therefore they count; I take it as part of the population of the other districts as well as of the City for police purposes?—They are included in the census tables in the metropolis, because the census is there taken at the maximum, whereas, the census is always taken in the City at the extreme minimum. It is very difficult, indeed, to ascertain what would be the right proportion so as to contrast them. All I contend now, is, that Sir Richard Mayne has gone to the extreme of testing it unfairly as regards the City of London, because he has not made any allowance for the day population, and has made no allowance for any frequenters whatever.

837. I do not object to that argument, but only to what seems to be carrying it, perhaps, rather beyond its fair limits?—I shall bring the matter before the Committee presently a little more definitely, because I have a return which points a little to the number of the population. It informs us how many crimes were committed by outsiders, and how many by residents. The next paragraph is, "The cost of the police, whether considered as a tax on the population or houses, being, as thus shown, so much higher in the City, it was asserted that the inhabitants of the City pay the higher rates for the greater security of person and property afforded them." This we most fully admit. There are no policemen kept by the Corporation in the City, but such as they judge to be necessary for their protection. It is not at all likely that the citizens would tax themselves heavily for policemen, unless they thought it necessary; and that opens the question of efficiency, which is more important than that of cost. If they are inefficient they are dear at any price; if they are efficient it matters not whether they cost a few shillings or pence per head more than they do in some other districts. And this opens the question of the very grave allegations which are made by Sir Richard Mayne; the most grave allegations which are before the Committee. I do not hesitate to say, that if there is the slightest foundation for them, the City ought not to be entrusted for another hour with the management of their police. Indeed the allegations are so absurd, that they carry upon their face their own contradiction. I may state that I have had an Actuarial calculation made

made upon the subject, that taking the sleeping population, as given by Sir Richard Mayne, and the number of crimes committed in the City, as brought before the two Courts, every adult person in the City, male and female, must have been in prison over three times during their natural lives; and taking the graver crimes, such as wounding with intent, shooting, stabbing, and garotting, which Sir Richard Mayne alleges to be at the rate of 271 per cent. of the inhabitants, each inhabitant of the City must have been guilty of those crimes, once within a year, if the statements are well founded. But here again is the fallacy which we have been discussing. Sir Richard Mayne reduces the population by taking out the liberties of the City, which are watched by the City police, to 111,784 persons, and then he charges, against those persons, all the crimes committed by the frequenters and day residents, and the night residents, numbering in all some 700,000 persons. Now I, or rather the Corporation, have obtained from Mr. Oke, who is the chief clerk at the Mansion House, and a gentleman who is known to be eminent in reference to criminal matters, a return which he got out for the year 1864, (that being the last year which could be obtained during the year 1865, when it was made out). It is a return of the residences of persons proceeded against. I will not read the return, because, if the Committee will allow me, I will put it in.—(*The same was delivered in*, vide *Appendix*.) The result will be seen to be this, that out of 9,641 crimes and offences committed in 1864, 2,346 were committed by persons who gave their address in the City, and 7,295 by persons residing out of the City, the proportion being 1 to 4·1 of the whole; so that we learn that three persons and more out of four who were charged with crime before the City magistrates, in the City, and had committed the crimes within the jurisdiction of the City, come from outlying districts; so that, although we cannot ascertain the proportions of the population with certainty, yet it shows that three-fourths of all the crime should be abated before we begin to make such comparisons. It is hardly necessary for me to remind the Committee, that in every society in London in which you are present, there must be a large number of persons who have connections in the City. Of persons now present the honourable Chairman has his chambers and his clerks in the Temple, watched by the City police. The Honourable Member for Bath, I think, has returned himself and seven clerks in the day census, in an office in Leadenhall-street. I have myself 12 employés in the City, who are there every day, making with myself 13 persons, and not one of those persons is returned in the night census. The honourable Member for the City of London has offices in the City. I do not know how many employés he has in the City, but he is not recorded in the City, nor are any persons whom he may employ as workmen during the day. If any one of those persons commit a crime in the City, they are debited against the City Police by Sir Richard Mayne, and that makes out the inhabitants of the City to be fourfold criminals. Therefore the whole statement is fallacious. I do not wish to trouble the Committee with too many figures upon this subject, but I may say that, having gone into the subject very carefully, I find, if I have not carried the matter too far, that the excess of crime is with the Metropolitan police, and not with the City police. I do not wish to push that matter too far, because it is quite impossible to ascertain with judicial accuracy what number of persons should be credited to a district where the population is so migratory as it is in the City of London and the surrounding districts. The Committee will allow me to pass over several very important allegations which then succeeded. I will only say that there is no foundation whatever for them. If the Committee wish for further information, I am prepared to give the figures; indeed I have published them as an individual elsewhere. Perhaps it will be sufficient, without wearying the Committee by going through a number of statistics, to say that the whole of those statements about the excess of crime in the City, I believe to be totally unfounded and unjustifiable, and I think they are very undesirable, considered with reference to the City Commissioner of Police, who is an officer of very high experience connected with the police, and who was recommended to the Corporation by Sir George Grey, the late Home Secretary. I am quite sure it is only fair to him to say that there is no foundation for them. It is due also to the Police Committee of the Corporation, who have some superintendence over the Commissioner and the force, and I think also to this Committee who inserted this Appendix, that I should have an opportunity of dealing with these figures, which as they stand are not only fallacious but absurd. I am prepared to put in some tables which carry those comparisons over a period of eight years. Those statements are taken from the Government volume of "Judicial Statistics," and they show that the City police contrasts very favourably with the Metropolitan police. One is a summary of crimes of every description from 1858 to 1865.—(*The same was delivered in*, vide *Appendix*.) Then I have a summary of those crimes classified by the Home Office authorities into six classes, which will show how the City and the metropolis stand in each class.—(*The same was delivered in*, vide *Appendix*.) Then Sir Richard Mayne states distinctly here, that a very much larger proportion of persons who are apprehended in the City are discharged by the magistrates than in the metropolis. It is entirely the reverse of that. This is not a question of population, but a question of arithmetic. The total number of crimes and offences in eight years in the metropolitan district was 686,109, in the City it was 54,575, the total of crimes being 740,684. The proportion of apprehensions to the crimes charged were in the metropolitan district 38·8 per cent., and in the City 67·4 per cent.; that is to say, that more apprehensions take place in the City upon charges being made by the public. But we find that the committals and convictions were also more numerous in the City than in the metropolitan district. The proportion of committals and apprehensions was greatly in favour of the City police. In the Metropolitan police there were only 55 per cent. convicted, and in the City 69·7 per cent. were committed. There is another way of testing police efficiency. All those methods are to a certain extent approximations only, and are not absolutely conclusive; but they are such attempts as Sir Richard Mayne has made, and I am merely following his example. Police efficiency can be tested by the Table which I put in.—(*The same was delivered in*, vide *Appendix*.) It is here shown, taking all the crimes in eight years, that efficient apprehensions resulting in convictions were, in the Metropolitan police district

B. Scott, Esq.

28 March 1867.

trict 54 per cent., and in the City of London 73·7 per cent., which is very greatly in favour of the City. Of inefficient apprehensions resulting in discharges (so that it may be assumed that the police apprehended the parties improperly) in the Metropolitan police district there were 45·9 per cent., and in the City of London only 26·2 per cent. Tested by that table, the City police stand in a more favourable position than the Metropolitan police. There is one more statement which I wish to make, and that is about the gravest offences. It is the gravest allegation in this paper, and it must be dealt with. "With reference to the graver classes of offences against persons and houses, the annexed table (E.) from "Judicial Statistics," page 16, in the year 1861, shows that of the following grave offences against the person, namely, attempts to murder, shooting at, wounding, stabbing with intent to do bodily harm, manslaughter, and larceny from the person, the numbers were in the metropolitan police district, 1,368, being in the ratio of 1 to 2,273, or 0·44 per cent. of the population. In the City the numbers are 304, being in the ratio of 1 to 368, or 271 per cent. of the population." That is, as I have stated, the gravest charge of the whole. The figures of the night census applied to the crimes and offences in the City would prove, as I have stated, that every inhabitant has been guilty of these crimes once during the year. I should point out that Sir Richard Mayne, in making his calculation, has not accepted the classification of the Home Office. He did not take Class 1, which he should have done, namely, the grave offences, which include murder amongst them, but he has omitted murder from the grave class. I find 10 murders committed in the Metropolitan police district during the year 1861, and none in the City. He excluded the gravest class of all in making his calculation, and he made up the number, as you see, by adding larcenies from the person, that is, picking pockets and offences of that class, which are against the City of London, because of the great crowding which takes place in the City thoroughfares, so that there are greater facilities for picking pockets there. It seems to me to be an unfair way of arriving at the facts, that he should have omitted murders, which are altogether against the Metropolitan Police in taking grave offences, and that he should have added larceny from the person, in order to make up the number. I will now put in a classificasion made by the Home Secretary.—(*The same was delivered in*, vide *Appendix*.) I find these to be the results, including murder, and kindred offences against the person: The offences of the metropolitan districts are 95·6, and in the City only 4·4. In Class 2, burglary, highway robbery, &c., in the Metropolitan Police district, the proportion was 92 per cent.; and in the City of London, 8 per cent. only. In Class 3 to 6, for less aggravated offences, Metropolitan Police 91·6 per cent., and in the City 8·4 per cent. You will notice that the proportions are exceedingly small in the City, ranging from four to eight per cent. only; but the proportions, small as they are, increase as the gravity of the crimes decrease, that is to say, they are lowest in the gravest offences, namely, only 4 per cent., and they are 8·4 per cent. in the less aggravated offences. The reverse is the case in respect to the metropolis, the highest number ranging against the metropolis, being connected with the gravest crimes and offences. I may state, as the result of the whole, that of murders alone in eight years, Sir George Grey's tables show that 79 were committed in the Metropolis Police district, as reported by the police, to only 3 in the City. The Coroner's return gives 600 verdicts of wilful murder in Middlesex alone for the same period. There is only one other point in connection with the police which I wish to put before the Committee, respecting the discreditable and dangerous elements of the two police districts. I will give the figures as they appear, for the year 1861, in the Home Office tables. Of "receivers of stolen goods" known to the police there were 232 in the metropolis and 11 in the City; of "houses for the reception of stolen goods" there were 181 in the Metropolis and 11 in the City of "brothels and houses of ill fame" there were in the Metropolis 1,601 and 9 in the City; of "other houses the resort of thieves and prostitutes," there were 567 in the Metropolis and 44 in the City; of "known thieves and depredators" there were 2,961 in the Metropolis and 57 in the City.

838. Mr. *Locke*.] What do you mean by known thieves, and so forth?—Persons who have been convicted, and are watched by the police.

839. Do the police know where they live?—They know where they live, and they are watched by the police, and they are so designated in the Home Office classification. Of "suspected persons at large" there were 1,974 in the Metropolis and 51 in the City; of "prostitutes" (that is those who were known, or suspected of being depredators as well as prostitutes, we may call them criminals as well as prostitutes) there were 7,096 in the Metropolis and 28 only in the City. The result of all these numbers, summing them together for the year 1861, and assuming that the City is about one-seventh or one-eighth of the metropolis, as regards its population, that the actual share of the City would have been 2,117; but the real share that they have, according to those tables, is only 211; that is only one-tenth part of the share which would proportionally belong to them. I here again state that these statistics are the best which are obtainable. They are obtained from the highest authority we can go to, namely, the "Judicial Statistics" of the Home Office. I do not lay any great stress upon the actual figures, but I do assert, most unequivocally, that in every respect the City stands in a more favourable position than the metropolis, judged by those statistics. Unless the Committee wish to ask me any question on this subject, I will not trouble them further on this part of the matter; but we did consider that it was absolutely indispensable that an answer should be given in to these papers, which ought not to have been put in before this Committee.

840. Lord *John Manners*.] What is the date of Sir Richard Mayne's paper, which was quoted and put in by Mr. Chadwick?—The date of the paper is June 1863, and it refers to the condition of the police in the year 1861, the "Judicial Statistics" to which he alludes having been only out then for the year 1861. Those for 1862 were hardly issued from the Home Office. I stated just now that it should not have been produced to this Committee, because it was laid before Sir George Grey, and Sir George Grey has kept this document in his office from 1863 until the time when it was laid before this Committee last year; so that there is no doubt whatever that the Home Secretary saw that it was a matter which was not suited

suited for publication, and that it was not prepared with that accuracy with which such documents ought to be prepared. I apprehend that in some way or other Mr. Chadwick had obtained a copy of it in 1863, and so it was introduced to this Committee.

841. Was it made public at that time?—It was not published by any official authority, but Sir Richard Mayne sent a copy of it to the newspapers. The Police Committee of the City met and consulted me about it, and the Police Commissioner and myself felt that it was so utterly fallacious that it was unworthy of an answer, and that it would give it too much importance to reply to it. A copy was obtained from the police-office, and I think that a reply was sent to that effect. I think that it was not right or proper on the part of Mr. Chadwick to lay before this Committee a document which had been so treated by the Home Office. If the facts stated had been reliable it ought to have been communicated to Parliament at a much earlier date, and made public for the correction of the evils which it assumes to disclose with reference to the City police.

842. Mr. *Locke.*] With regard to this amount of crime and the drawing of a distinction between the City and other parts of the metropolis, there is nobody in the City at night, is there?—113,000 was the last return in the census of 1861.

843. But how is that returned?—The census return of 1861 gives 113,000 persons as being in the City, who slept in the City on that night.

844. But there is nothing going on in the City at night, as there is in the other parts of the metropolis, is there?—Very little.

845. There are no places of amusement?—Very few.

846. There are some public houses, I suppose, open?—Yes.

847. But there are no places where persons congregate at all?—There are no theatres.

848. Nor music-halls?—Very few.

849. Shoreditch is not in the City, is it?—It is not.

850. There is a theatre there?—Yes.

851. But there are no theatres at all in the City?—I believe not one.

852. Therefore, there are comparatively not many people moving about in the City at night?—There are not so many moving about at night; the City is populated at its minimum at night, and at its maximum during the day.

853. Therefore, there is necessarily less crime, because there are less people to rob, and so on?—There is less crime of a particular class at night, and more of another class; that is, there is more danger of people breaking into houses and shops at night, and more danger of picking pockets, forgery, fraud, and embezzlement during the day. We find from the tables that the City of London is very exceptional in that respect, and all I contend is, that is is extremely fallacious and unfair to test it by its minimum population, when we know, without a doubt, that three-fourths of all the crimes and offences are committed by outsiders.

854. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Those statistics were furnished, I believe, by Sir Richard Mayne to the Home Office, at the time when he made an attempt to obtain the control of the City police after the public entry of the Princess Alexandra into London?—They were.

855. And the object of those statistics was to show to the public how much better the metropolitan police was managed than the City of London police, and at how small a cost as compared with the cost of the City police, and what a great saving of money might be made, and how much greater convenience and security might be given, if the whole of the City police was amalgamated with the metropolitan police, under the control of Sir Richard Mayne?—That is the obvious intention of the writer of the letter.

856. I believe that the Corporation of London have never issued any statistics at any time with the object of casting any slur upon the management or the effective state of the metropolitan police?—I have never heard of any instance of their making any remarks upon the management of the metropolitan police, excepting that in this case they have referred to the "Judicial Statistics" to show that their police does not occupy a disadvantageous position in comparison with the metropolitan police force.

857. Then, in their own minutes or in any documents of any kind, they have never drawn any comparisons whatever with respect to the management of the metropolitan police as compared with the City police, unless they have been compelled to do so by statistics issued from other quarters?—That is the case.

Monday, 1st April 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.
Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Bentinck.
Sir William Gallwey.
Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Locke.
Lord John Manners.
Mr. Mill.
Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Tite.
Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., in the Chair.

SAMUEL ROBERT GOODMAN, Esq., called in; and Examined.

S. R. Goodman, Esq.

1 April 1867.

858. *Chairman.*] WHAT is your occupation?—I have now retired from office, but I held for many years the office of Chief Clerk to the Lord Mayor, and also that of Clerk of the Peace for the City of London and the Borough of Southwark.

859. Do you wish to make some statement to the Committee respecting the Corporation of London?—If the Committee will allow me to do so. I was chief clerk at the Mansion House for 21 years, and during that time the average annual number of prisoners at the Mansion House Justice Room was 2,372. Of that number there were committed for trial, during the 20 years, 4,332, and of that number there were acquitted 568, being about 13 per cent. The number of summonses during that time averaged each year 2,690.

860. That is for all minor offences?—All which were in the character of a summons; whether they were eventually committed for trial or not, very few would be out of that number; but that was summary jurisdiction principally.

861. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Does that return, from which you have read, give each year?—Yes.

862. Do you put that in?—Yes; the return is as follows:—"Summary of Business at the Mansion House."

863. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Over what time does it extend?—For 20 years, from 1843 to 1863.

864. *Chairman.*] What is the distinction in this return between "heard at the Police Committee and "heard at the Mansion House"?—Those heard at the Mansion House are heard before the Lord Mayor, or the sitting magistrates; those before the Police Committee are those in which two or more magistrates sit, in what we call a Police Committee, to hear certain summonses, so as to relieve the Justice Room a little of the pressure of business.

865. Is there any rule to distinguish the different classes of summonses?—That has been discontinued towards the latter part of the time.

866. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Those being heard at Guildhall?—Yes.

867. *Chairman.*] Then what is the rule by which you now discriminate between those heard at the Mansion House and those heard at Guildhall?—Those taken out by the police constables themselves for loitering, and that character of offence, are heard at the Guildhall.

868. That is for offences against the Police Act?—Against the Hackney Carriage Act, the Police Act, and other Acts giving a summary jurisdiction.

869. Not being of a felonious or higher order of crime, but merely misdemeanours specially mentioned in the Act?—Only those which were directed by the Commissioner of Police to be taken out, and by the police themselves; the others are taken out by private individuals.

870. What is the meaning of the hearing in petty sessions?—Those were prisoners who were tried under the Petty Sessions Act.

871. But what constitutes a petty sessions in the City?—Two or more justices who have summary jurisdiction; in the case of aggravated assaults, for instance, persons are committed, say for six months, and then it requires two or more magistrates in petty sessions to commit.

872. Has the Lord Mayor an equal power with a stipendiary magistrate sitting alone?—In every case where it has not been taken from him under Acts of Parliament which have been passed since the 11th and 12th Victoria.

873. Otherwise has he the ordinary jurisdiction, when sitting alone, of a stipendiary magistrate in the metropolis?—The Lord Mayor, or any alderman sitting at the Mansion House, or the Guildhall Justice Room, has the ordinary power of a police magistrate.

874. But since the General Act was passed, you say that some special Acts have been passed, limiting the jurisdiction to the petty sessions, that is, to two justices?—Yes.

875. Mr. *Bentinck.*] You have considerable acquaintance, I presume, with the justices' business of the City?—I was connected with the criminal law for 35 years before I retired.

876. Do you visit the City very often now?—Not very often.

877. Perhaps you may have noticed the very large number of professional vagrants which there are in the City, especially in the great thoroughfares such as Cheapside and Cornhill?—That has always been the case.

878. Have no steps ever been taken by the City authorities to remove those persons?—Yes.

879. But they have been unsuccessful?—The people have returned very often, and as often have been removed.

880. I constantly visit the City myself, and see those people parading up and down in the most frequented thoroughfares, especially in Cornhill, and everywhere where there is a large number of persons whose feelings of charity are likely to be excited by the spectacle presented to them; and I never saw any action at all on the part of the police for removing them?—If the Committee were to have the return of the number of vagrants dealt with, that would show at once that very active steps were taken.

881. That would hardly show it; I thought that you were very well acquainted with the justice business, and might perhaps be able to answer that question?—We used sometimes to have complaints, and the moment they were made they were referred to the Commissioner of Police, who took the necessary steps to mitigate the evil. For the last two years I have not been much in the City.

882. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] What is the rule with respect to criminal charges being taken to the Mansion House, or the Guildhall Police Court?—There is a line of demarcation; it is not by Act of Parliament. All offences arising within the districts of the first, second, and third divisions of the City Police are taken at the Guildhall; and all offences arising in the fourth, fifth, and sixth divisions are taken at the Mansion House.

883. That is to say, the eastern part of the City is taken at the Mansion House, and the western part at the Guildhall?—The eastern part, including the Post Office, the Bank of England, the Custom House, and that part of the City.

884. In fact, any offences committed within the Government departments in the City?—They are taken at the Mansion House generally, the public offices being within that district.

885. You were also clerk of the peace, and had to do with the quarter sessions in the City, had you not?—Yes, I held that office for seven years only.

886. And you were originally in the office at the Central Criminal Court, were you not?—I was Clerk of Indictments there, and Clerk of Indictments on the Norfolk Circuit previously, and on the Home Circuit previously to that.

887. Then with respect to criminal charges being brought at the Mansion House, from a long course of experience there, can you state to the Committee what the general feeling in that part of the City is with which the Mansion House has to do with respect to the cases which were brought to the Mansion House?—I have never heard otherwise than approval; that is, from the individuals themselves; and we have very frequently been complimented by the judges at the Central Criminal Court for the manner in which the proceedings have been prepared.

888. Is the business increasing or diminishing at the Mansion House?—I do not think there is much increase; it remains about the average, I think.

889. *Chairman.*] How long does the Lord Mayor, or one of the Aldermen, sit every day at the Mansion House?—The usual mode of proceeding is from 12 o'clock till the entire business is finished.

890. Up to what hour does it generally take to finish the business?—It depends very much upon the amount of business to be heard in the day.

891. What is your impression of the time that they take?—Perhaps three hours a-day upon an average; some days it would be six hours, other days it would be finished by half-past one.

892. Was there always a justice there at 12 o'clock to take his seat?—Now and then a magistrate may have been five or ten minutes late, but I never knew any inconvenience arising from it.

893. But there was never an absence of a justice for the day?—Under no circumstances.

894. Will you explain to the Committee what is done at the quarter sessions of the City?—There are appeals from the various City magistrates' proceedings relating to the gas, compensation cases under the Sewers Act, and matters relating to the Lunatic Asylum; those are the principal things.

895. Is the licensing done at the quarter sessions?—Licensing is done at special sessions; I was clerk of special sessions for a short time.

896. Does the Recorder preside over the quarter sessions?—Yes.

897. How long does the business take at each quarter sessions?—If there are no compensation cases it would take perhaps an hour and a half, or two hours.

898. Then since the Central Criminal Court was established it is rather a formal than a substantial sessions, is it not?—It is a substantial sessions, and essentially so, as far as regards the proceedings which I have now enumerated; but they do not make a practice of trying prisoners at those quarter sessions, because there are 12 sessions at the Central Criminal Court, and only four quarter sessions; and therefore it is found to work better to send all the cases to the Central Criminal Court.

899. Can you give the Committee any idea of the number of cases heard and disposed of at the sittings at Guildhall?—I should think, as near as I can guess, that at Guildhall are heard rather more than two-thirds of the number of cases heard at the Mansion House; they have rather less business than at the Mansion House.

900. Do you think that the proportion of prisoners and committals at the Guildhall is about two-thirds of those at the Mansion House?—I should think about the same.

901. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] In addition to your duties as chief clerk at the Mansion House, have you also been secretary to most of the charitable matters which have emanated from the Mansion House?—I acted as honorary unpaid secretary in every instance, and as working secretary.

902. And that, I believe, has taken a large amount of time?—Yes; it frequently took me eight or ten hours a day.

903. In fact, from your exertions in those matters, together with your usual business, your health gave way, and the Corporation of London have superannuated you?—They have; perhaps I might refer to one other point with regard to the justice-room, namely, the large number of applications for charitable relief.

904. *Chairman.*] How much money do you dispense every year at the Mansion House?—During the year 1861 I myself relieved 3,000 individuals.

S. B. Goodman, Esq.

1 April 1867.

905. How much money did you disburse in that kind of relief?—Something under 2,000 *l.*

906. Where did you get it from?—From the public.

907. Mr. *Tite.*] Do the great companies contribute it?—Several of the companies send donations to the poor-box annually.

908. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Was that relief given to persons with whose residences you were acquainted?—In every case inquiry was made where they were resident, but in very many instances persons would come to the Lord Mayor, as a matter of course, from the country, who wanted to be sent home, or who had come upon some errand or other, and could not get back again.

909. Do they get relief as a matter of course?—No; we made inquiry at the time through our own officers, and upon their report we either sent the people home, or referred them to the union, according to circumstances.

910. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] I believe that foreigners in distress find their way to the Mansion House in large numbers, do they not?—It is quite a central point for them.

911. Mr. *Tite.*] There is a similar fund at all the police offices, is there not?—There is a similar fund, but not nearly to the same extent.

912. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] So that the duties of the clerk at the Mansion House were of a very various and very onerous character?—They were.

Mr. James Medwin, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

913. *Chairman.*] What is your occupation?—I am a Bootmaker.

914. Where is your place of business?—At 86, Regent-street, in Gracechurch-street, and in Lombard-street.

915. Mr. *Mill.*] You are a vestryman of St. James'?—I am; I became so very soon after the passing of the Metropolis Local Management Act.

916. You have therefore considerable knowledge of the administration of other parts of the metropolis as well as of the City?—I am a member of the Court of Common Council, and I have been so for seven or eight years. I have had the opportunity, certainly, of becoming well acquainted with the working of the municipal system in the City and the working of the vestry system outside the City.

917. Have you formed any opinion as to the merits of those systems, and the amendments of which they might be susceptible?—I have formed an opinion; and the opinion taken as a whole is, that the vestry system, especially taken in connection with the Metropolitan Board, is a failure. I have come to the conclusion that no trust property in the country is managed more economically or better than the trust property which is managed by the Corporation, as trustees; and not only is it managed faithfully and well and economically, but I think that it is managed with great intelligence and efficiency. I am quite clear that that is the case in contrast with many trusts with which I am acquainted, and I believe it to be so taken as a whole.

918. Mr. *Kekewich.*] To what corporations and trustees do you allude?—I believe that most of the corporations throughout the country are trustees for funds of various kinds; but the Corporation of London is trustee in a variety of ways, as no doubt is perfectly well known to the Committee.

919. Mr. *Mill.*] As you have begun a statement regarding the City, will you continue that subject, and state your opinions fully upon the City administration, before proceeding to that of the vestries?—I shall be happy to do so if the Committee will allow me. I have said that I have had good opportunities of forming an opinion, and that I ought to be able, from the opportunities which I have had, to give the Committee my opinion. The result is thoroughly in favour of the municipalities; firstly, because in the City of London we get far better men as members of the Corporation than we get outside the City to represent us in the vestries; I find that in the Corporation the members are willing to devote a great deal more time and attention to the details of the business which comes before them than vestrymen are willing to devote. In the case of vestrymen, I find that two or three hours is the full extent to which they will sit; that if they meet in the morning at 11 o'clock, one o'clock being their usual dining time, it requires a very powerful attraction to keep them half an hour longer; I find that outside the City, in the vestries, there does not appear to be anything like a bond of union; that all the little angularities of character remain in the shape of antagonism year after year; but I find that in the Corporation of London after a person has become acquainted with the business of the court, he seems to have more confidence in those with whom he works, and the result is, that the whole machinery operates more harmoniously than in the other case; I find also that you get a better class of men, men of higher social position, and men of higher intelligence in the City of London, than I have seen in any vestry outside the City. I very much question whether there be any body of trustees or representative men throughout the country who represent an average larger income than that which is represented by the members of the Corporation of London; of course, I except the Members of the House of Commons, but with that exception (and I should say that the Corporation would contrast well with the Members of the House of Commons), I say that, in my judgment, there is no body in England which can bear a comparison with the staple of the members of the Corporation of London. I have been looking through a list of the members of the Corporation; and as a member of the Income and Property Tax Commission I have been accustomed, necessarily under the guidance of surveyors and assessors, to form an opinion of men's income from various circumstances; and I should say, that if you took the total income of the members of the Corporation of London, and divided it by their whole number, which is upwards of 230, you would find that their average income would amount to between 2,000 *l.* and 3,000 *l.* a year. Now, 30 or 40 years ago, it is within my memory, that the staple of the members of the Corporation was very much inferior to what it is at present; I should say that the present

present Corporation has three times the intelligence, and in general respectability it is very much superior, and in social position its members are very much higher; I do not think that that can be said of many other representative bodies in the country; I do not think that it can be said of the House of Commons, that it represents now a larger amount of wealth than it did 40 years ago; and therefore I say emphatically, that the Corporation of London has not deteriorated, but has rather progressed, and stands higher now than it ever did. Then the business of the Corporation is attended to with more punctuality than the business outside the City; I never knew a case during the seven years I have been in the Corporation when we failed to get a committee for the management of some details, whether important or not; but it is almost a matter of daily occurrence in the vestries, that they cannot get a committee together; and are obliged to send messengers out right and left to obtain a quorum it may be of five. I reside at Camberwell, and I know something of the proceedings of the Camberwell vestry; I have several friends in the Lambeth vestry, and I am partly in Lambeth parish, and I know something of that; and, owing to various causes, I have reason to be pretty well acquainted with the working of the system, few men I should say are more so; but I am speaking now specially of my experience in St. James's vestry. Then I say also that we do our work at less cost. Something has been said about the dinners of the Corporation, and of the expensive mode of management by that means. Mr. Henry Hunt, who was once a member of the House of Commons, brought forward a motion some years ago at the Common Hall, that the members of the Corporation should be paid 10*s.* for each attendance at a committee. It had been a custom at one time to pay members for their attendances, and under the system of payment we had many bankers; but when the system of payment ceased, the bankers ceased to come as members of the Corporation, they could do better elsewhere. I have been endeavouring to obtain the figures this morning, but I am clear that I have seen it stated in print that the Corporation, when money payments were made to its members, had about one-fourth of its present income; the business now is ten times as large in amount as it was then, and probably the number of committee meetings would be fourfold; but when the income of the Corporation and the business was a vast deal less under the system of money payments, a double expenditure took place to that which takes place under the expenditure which is known by the name of "Allowances to Committees." I give my personal experience, and that the Committee may take that as the experience of a large number of members of the Corporation, that during the past year I should think I attended 190 committees and meetings of the Common Council, with an average of three hours in each; and I should think that after the close of the business, usually at five o'clock, personally I did not dine more than five times during the year. Now I believe that to be a sample of a large number of the members of the Corporation; they live out of town, and they are glad to get out of town; at the same time, while I did not go to many dinners, I have my dinner when I get home, or go to some place near at hand at five o'clock to get refreshment; and I think it perfectly reasonable and fair, and not to be a subject to be trifled with or sneered at by any one, that gentlemen, after they have been sitting without any payment whatever for three or four hours devoting their time to the public, should have the opportunity, without expense to themselves, of getting some slight refreshment. If, as the balance of the allowance of the Committee, at the end of the year, an opportunity is given to me to take my daughter or my wife up the river to Richmond, and enjoy the pleasures of a summer's day, if we can save enough out of our allowance; or if, by the addition of our subscription to the balance, we are enabled to have an entertainment of that sort, I think it a very small compensation for the large amount of time which the members devote to the public interest. I am quite sure that if they devoted one-half the time as members of directorial boards, obtaining their one, two, three or four guineas, and not attending to their business, and if they were paid one tithe of what those gentlemen get, they would have a very considerable increase to their income; but I very much doubt whether the affairs of the City of London would be administered with anything like the same completeness, or with anything like the same honesty. Perhaps while I am upon the subject of the Corporation, I may say that I was present last Thursday, in the Committee-room, when a question was put by the honourable Chairman as to the policy or impolicy of realising by sale the value of the Bridge-house Estates, for the sake of saving the cost of management. Now, the cost of management is very small—it struck me at first that it would be a saving of expense to sell off the Bridge-house property, and immediately to place the proceeds elsewhere, and to save the cost of management; but it struck me, also, that the same principle would apply to the Crown property of the Woods and Forests, the property of the universities, and to the property of the hospitals of London; and I am quite sure the honourable Member for Bath present, who is a governor of St. Thomas's Hospital, would not, on the part of his colleagues, for one moment entertain the idea of realising their estates, although they are now in a very much improved condition as compared with what they were, and are realising a very large income. I, as also one of the governors of that hospital, should hope that the Committee would not lend the sanction of their recommendations to anything that would lead the public, and especially the lower class of the public, to clamour for the realising of trust property and dividing the proceeds for the sake of getting rid of the responsibility and expense of management.

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

1 April 1867.

920. *Chairman.*] Apart from your comparison, you think it would be an economical arrangement to sell the improved portion of the trust property, and save the expense of administration?—We have property in St. James's left to us by the former owner of Morley's Hotel; I think it would be a saving of annual expense if that trust property was realised and disposed of at once; but I do not think we should be doing our duty as trustees to entertain the proposition, because of the trouble and the small addition of expense annually.

921. You were merely asked whether in your opinion it would be an economical proceeding, as regards the pecuniary result, if the improved portion of the Bridge House Estates were sold and applied towards the payment of the debts

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

1 April 1867.

charged upon it?—I should very much doubt it, for this reason, that under the administration of the City I see the value of the Bridge House property is increasing immensely year by year; and if we realized a sum of a million and a half and paid off the debts now, that same property within the next 15 or 20 years would realise probably another million. I have seen greater changes than that. I have no doubt that during the last 200 years property in the City has doubled in value every 50 years; and it strikes me that, financially, it would be a suicidal policy, to say nothing of the immorality of dealing with trusts in that way, to get rid of the estates for the sake of paying off the debts. Persons would buy the estates to pay them 5 per cent., and the Corporation at the present time is borrowing money at 4½ per cent. And I think those two facts put together would be the answer to the Chairman's question. The newspapers at any rate in which I have seen the report convey the impression that a charge was made against the Corporation that their entertainments were given, and that the principal part of the expense was incurred, for the delectation of themselves, their sons, daughters, wives, and customers. Now, I never took a customer to an entertainment of the Corporation during the seven years that I have been a member of the Corporation. I have procured invitations when applied to by persons of considerable standing in the mercantile world abroad; and they have received the entertainments, I know, and have been very much impressed with the respectability and dignity of the Corporation. And I might say that it is within my knowledge that when entertainments are given at the Mansion House, and elsewhere, a large number of the aristocracy are invited, and many of them come. And I see a large number of members of the House of Commons there, and they appear to be satisfied both with the respectability and general management of the arrangements.

922. Do you think that the entertainments given in the City would be shared in by the wealthy and highest class of the citizens of London, if they were given at the expense of those persons, instead of being given at the expense of public funds?—I think that the question assumes that the entertainments given are given out of public funds.

923. I mean in so far as they are given out of public funds?—But they are not all given out of public funds; if I understand the honourable Chairman's meaning, it is this, that the entertainments given by the Corporation, or by the Lord Mayor, or by the sheriffs, or the allowances to committees, are taken out of funds which belong to the public.

924. Are they paid for out of public municipal funds belonging to the Corporation of London?—There is not one farthing taken out of taxation.

925. But are not those entertainments to a large extent paid for out of municipal funds?—I believe they are in many cases paid for out of funds specially devoted by the donors for the purposes of entertainments.

926. Can you give the Committee a statement of the amount of funds in the hands of the Corporation specially devoted by the donors to entertainments?—The Chamberlain would do it, but I have not the figures.

927. You think the amount paid does not exceed the amount specially given by donors for entertainments, as regards the Corporation of London?—I do not know, but I believe there were funds left specially for the purpose of entertainments.

928. To the Corporation of London?—To the Corporation of London; but not one farthing is taken out of the public funds for the entertainments of the Corporation, and even if there were a very large sum, I think that that is inseparable from the existence of a Corporation; in giving entertainments to royal personages and distinguished foreigners, they are doing that which the Government in other countries would do, and the Government to that extent is saved the expense.

929. Do you think if the entertainments to distinguished persons were given at the expense of those who were present, and who entertained those distinguished persons, they would be more likely to represent the general character of the wealthy and influential classes of the inhabitants of the metropolis, instead of being given out of corporate funds, either trust or otherwise?—Certainly, if the Queen for the time being gave a contribution to the fund, the case would be altered.

930. Do you think that if the bankers and the merchants of London entertained the Queen at their expense, such an entertainment would more fully represent the character of the interests of the city of London than an entertainment given at the expense of the corporate funds of the city of London?—Certainly I do not think the bankers are so completely and thoroughly the representatives of the whole of London as the Corporation is.

931. You were not asked as to the bankers only, but as to the bankers, merchants, and other distinguished persons in the City of London?—I very much doubt whether, if the entertainments were given by bankers and merchants as such, separate from their corporate character (supposing them to be members of the Corporation), distinguished persons would come to those entertainments. I apprehend the King of Denmark or Louis Napoleon, or any one else who would accept an invitation from the Corporation of London, as a corporation, would decline an invitation to one of our first bankers, if he received it.

932. Lord *John Manners.*] The invitation in that case would have no corporate character attached to it?—Certainly not; it is the corporate character of the invitations which gives them, I think, emphasis and value to persons coming from abroad.

933. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is it your opinion that if a subscription entertainment were got up to entertain distinguished persons, the guests who came to the subscription entertainments would be likely to be of the same class as those entertained by a public body like the Corporation of London?—Certainly not; there is no doubt about it.

934. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Did I understand you to say just now, that the entertainments which are given by the City of London to distinguished persons were a relief to the public to some extent; that is to say, that if the City of London did not entertain those distinguished personages, somebody

somebody else would have to entertain them?—I think so.

935. What possible grounds have you for such an opinion as that?—I think that the late Remembrancer, Mr. Tyrrell, if he were summoned before this Committee, would tell you, if he were justified in doing so without a breach of confidence, that intimations had often come from some member of the Government, or of the royal household, that an invitation for distinguished visitors would be acceptable.

936. But it does not follow from that, that the public would have to entertain those great personages if the City of London did not do so; I understood you to say, that it was a great advantage to the public that the City of London should be able to entertain distinguished personages, because if the City of London did not entertain the distinguished personages, then the public would have at their expense to entertain the same distinguished personages?—I said something of that sort, but I do not remember that I used the term "public." I had in my view the Queen, or the Government, or some distinguished State officer.

937. The Government is the public, because, of course, such a charge as that would have to come into the Estimates, and then it would either be the public, through the Government, or else the Crown?—It would fall either on the private funds of the Crown, or the public funds of the Government.

938. Have you any reason to suppose that any intimation of that nature has ever been made to the Corporation beyond what you said just now, namely, that it has been suggested that it would be agreeable to great personages that they should be entertained by the City, or is it only an opinion of yours, for which you have no grounds?—Perhaps I am trenching upon forbidden grounds. It is scarcely the thing, I apprehend, if indirectly you are requested to give an invitation to certain personages, to talk of it afterwards; but I have no doubt, from information I have received, that that has been the case over and over again, and I think that it is intimately connected with the character of the country in giving proper entertainments to distinguished foreigners coming here, that they should be impressed with the freedom and independence and wealth of its institutions, and I say that, amid all the Corporations of England, there is no one Corporation which, for purposes of that sort, does the thing so well and so effectually, and so impressively, as the Corporation of London.

939. *Chairman.*] Which do you think would be the more impressive entertainment, an entertainment given by the Corporation at the expense of all the most distinguished persons in the metropolis, or an entertainment out of the Corporate funds by the aldermen and common council?—I think that if the House of Peers and the House of Commons got up a subscription, headed by the Queen, an entertainment so provided with funds would be more impressive than an entertainment given by the Corporation, but, failing that, the Corporation does it, I think, the second best.

940. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you think that such a subscription on the part of the Queen and the nobility would be likely to be continuous?—Certainly not.

941. Mr. *Tite.*] In the case of Southampton, for instance, if a royal personage comes through the town, there are no corporate funds which have been left for any such purpose as entertainments (or if there were they are put an end to, I presume, by the recent Act): if a subscription were got up to give a public entertainment to a public man of distinguished rank (as I have known done in my time in the borough of Southampton), would you not be just as likely to have first-rate people present at that entertainment as if it were given out of corporate funds?—I apprehend that a distinguished foreigner would not accept a subscription dinner as such.

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

1 April 1867.

942. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you of opinion that royal personages, or distinguished persons, when they come into this country, would be likely to accept a subscription entertainment of the merchants and bankers of London in preference to an entertainment given by the Corporation of the City of London?—My opinion is decidedly that they would not.

943. Mr. *Kekewich.*] You stated, did you not, that the Corporation of the City of London presented a very favourable contrast to the vestry system, especially in connection with the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I said something of that kind. It is within my experience that, during the last eleven years, and certainly within the last four or five years, there has been, on the part of the inhabitants of the metropolis, a desire, which has been growing stronger every day, for the establishment of municipalities. That statement is preparatory to the reasons which have led them to the expression of that desire. I am quite clear, both from my own observation and from the direct votes of the vestry, that the inhabitants and the vestry of St. James's, Westminster, desire it. It is my belief, that if all London was polled (and probably they will soon have the opportunity of being polled if there be a dissolution of Parliament) a very large majority of the inhabitants of London would desire to have municipalities of some kind; and I believe, principally, they would desire a municipality for each borough. That arises from two causes: one being, that they see that their own vestry system has many imperfections connected with it, and that a great many weak points in the management of the parishes, through the vestries, are, time after time, developed; but the desire arises principally from the wish to repudiate their connection with the Metropolitan Board of Works, because the Metropolitan Board is not practically a representative institution. I know it was the feeling of many members of the Board, and of many intelligent persons, at first, that the result of Sir Benjamin Hall's Act must inevitably be to bring local self-government into disrepute; and certainly the position which is now occupied by the Metropolitan Board of Works in reference to the vestries of London is one with which no vestry, I believe, is satisfied. It has the name of local self-government, but it really is centralisation in its worst form: that is to say, centralisation bearing the name of local self-government, and yet having, comparatively, no responsibility. I think that there are 45 vestries district boards of the metropolis, and I should say that the positive expression of opinion in the shape of resolutions of 40 of the vestries and district boards out of the 45, declares that the Metropolitan Board of

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

1 April 1867.

Works have no sympathy with their interests, and that they have no sympathy or liking for the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works. As an example of that, I will lay before the Committee a paper showing the action of the Metropolitan Boards and Vestries upon this 4*d.* Improvement Rate Bill, which is now before the House. I hold in my hand a list, which is not a complete list, of the Vestries and District Boards which have petitioned against that Bill, and have declared emphatically that the Metropolitan Board of Works, in this matter, are misrepresenting the interests and feelings of the vestries.—(*The Witness delivered in a paper*, vide *Appendix.*)

944. Mr. *Locke.*] But do you speak of the public at large, or merely of the vestries?—The public meetings of the ratepayers; I am speaking of the ratepayers and members of the vestry, and I say that the members of the Metropolitan Board of Works are pursuing a course which is in direct antagonism and opposition to the expressly declared wishes of those who send them to that Board.

945. Lord *John Manners.*] Do you mean in this particular case?—I mean in this particular case.

946. Mr. *Locke.*] But those who send them to the Board are the vestries?—I spoke of them in one case, and I say, without limiting in any way the breadth of my meaning, that in the proportion which I have given, the Metropolitan Board of Works misrepresent the declared feeling of the vestries who send them there.

947. You do not say anything about the ratepayers at large?—I will add also to that, that they misrepresent the very extensively and largely declared feeling of the ratepayers. To give the Committee another instance of the extent to which the connection with the Metropolitan Board of Works seems to deaden the feeling of proper responsibility on the part of its members, I may state that in the St. James's Vestry we adopted a petition against the Bill, I believe with a minority of one; it was referred ministerially to the Parliamentary Committee to prepare a petition consonant with the vote, and to attach the vestry seal to it, and put it in the hands of the Honourable Captain Grosvenor, or some other Member to present it to Parliament; that petition went before the Parliamentary Committee, and their duty, as I apprehend, was merely to lodge the petition and do what they were ordered to do; but the member for the Metropolitan Board of Works was present, and when he found, as he thought, that he could break up the committee and prevent action, he said, "I will break up the meeting; you cannot do without me, I form a quorum, and you may take your own chance;" fortunately the chairman put the motion sufficiently quickly for the carrying of the petition, and the member got through the door about half a second too late Those are the feelings which are indulged in relatively by the vestries of London to the Metropolitan Board of Works; and I have given, as I think, abundant evidence to show that, in my small experience, that is the case. I am not a member of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and therefore I am not bitten, as some of the members of the Metropolitan Board of Works are, with an extreme love to it. I should say that it is rather noteworthy that in the Report of the Corporation Commissioners in 1854, they recommended a Board of Works to be elected out of, and after the creation of, seven municipalities. The Metropolitan Board of Works was not elected through municipal action; I apprehend that if it had been, the election would recur every year. The election of corporators in most of the Corporations takes place annually; that places their representatives more frequently in correspondence with those who send them to a central Board, and that annual election we find to be very salutary, and the departure from it to be very injurious.

948. Lord *John Manners.*] Where do you find that?—In the Corporation of London, certainly; I should say that there is an objection to the Metropolitan Board of Works, because in no one case that I remember, have they come to the vindication of the interest of those whom they are supposed to represent. If a work has to be done, and an intimation is conveyed to them that it must be paid for out of certain funds, it seems that they have the politeness at once to accept the invitation, and they have not the statesmanlike qualities which should lead them to consider whether this is a right or a wrong mode of accomplishing the work which they have to do. Now I call it a clumsy expedient, when they are called upon to see to the improvements of the metropolis, to say, "We must put our hands in your pockets for 4*d.* extra," when, if they looked about them, there are various sources of income which would not be pressed directly or hardly upon any one, and which would give them an income more fairly equalised to the position and rights of those whom they assess. I will give the Committee one or two cases in point: I think that there is a sum of 60,000*l.* realised annually by taxes in some shape or other upon metropolitan carriages, and though the Metropolitan Board applied to have this money devoted to the works which they have to execute, they never applied with that earnestness and continuity which would have secured it for them, and so this money goes into the Imperial funds, and is spent for the welfare generally of the kingdom, although it is earned principally by the sacrifice and demolition of the metropolitan roads.

949. Your accusation against the Metropolitan Board of Works is, that they have not taken those steps which in your opinion they ought to have taken, to compel the Government, as it were, to give up a source of Imperial revenue?—I would put it in this way, to give up revenues which are locally derived, and which the Government now appropriate to Imperial purposes, because it involves, to my mind, a great principle. Local taxation is one of the subjects which this Committee considers, and I believe that those who destroy the roads should pay for their repair, and that a fair source of revenue, and one which would produce a large amount, would be to affix a tax upon all carriages, railway waggons, and omnibuses, contributing to a general fund, dispensation being made out of that fund according to the requirements of the various roads and streets, to help to repair the roads which those carriages destroy. I will give the Committee one case of hardship: I know a jeweller who pays the same amount of rates as his neighbour; he has about six tons of coal brought to his door in the year, while his neighbour has 10 tons of goods every morning. Now, the rate of destruction incurred by the two parties is essentially different; the railway carriers do not contribute anything beyond their contribution as ratepayers,

ratepayers, on their warehouses, towards the streets, which they so eminently help to destroy; but directly they get off a granite road, and put a ton of goods on an iron road, that moment they pay at the rate of 2*d.* or 3*d.* a mile; and if 5*l.* a year was put on a railway carriage, and 2*l.* on a cart, and 3*l.* on an omnibus, an abundant income would be contributed, without coming to the ratepayers, by those who help more materially to produce the expense than any other class. There are sources of income which the Metropolitan Board of Works might easily obtain, and I say that it is clumsy to prepare a project for taking 4*d.* directly from the ratepayers' pockets, who are already overburdened.

950. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Does not the railway enormously increase the business of the ratepayers and improve the value of their property?—It is impossible to say what does not increase the prosperity of the country, and without hesitation I may say that no doubt the railway has increased the general prosperity of the country; but here we have 100 or 1,000 tons of goods, I will suppose, in a day coming from the north, and passing through London and going to America; neither the people at Manchester nor the people at New York pay one farthing towards the repairs of those streets, though railway carriers, more than any other class carrying these goods, are helping to destroy them; and I do think that the time has come when some notice should be taken of that and kindred sources of income, so as to save the present pressure which is growing unbearable upon the ratepayers of the metropolis. The funds now administered, as is well known, by the Metropolitan Board are enormous; and I heard an intelligent member of that Board state publicly the other day, that a man must eat and drink and sleep there, and have the power of fifty horses, to make anything like a reasonable attempt to manage and understand the business. It is notorious that they cannot do the present amount of business. They cannot intelligently attend to it, and it is gradually becoming an officers' Board. It is a convenient Board; and no doubt the Government for the time being finds it convenient to put these local works into their hands, and so to get rid of a great deal of irritating work; and I dare say that if the Government could do it, at the present moment, with anything like consistency, they would give them the charge of the construction of the National Gallery, upon the principle that is enunciated that they seek nothing, but that they take all that is given to them; and not only that, but I do not think they would hesitate to take the control of the police, or the management of the Imperial funds, or the government of Canada, if it were offered to them. But I take it that the Government are not right in getting rid of their responsibility, and transferring it to the Board, simply because it is a convenient process. I say that the work is not attended to by the members of the Board; they cannot do it. I am told that it is utterly impossible for the members of the Board to see to the business of that Board being done thoroughly well. That is another objection to the Board.

951. Lord *John Manners.*] I understand you to complain both of the vestry system, as it exists in the metropolis, and of the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works; is that so?—I complain of the constitution and proceedings of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

952. Can you state to the Committee how you would propose to amend the vestry system in the first instance?—I have maintained up to the present moment that there is only one solution to the difficulties; and it arises principally, perhaps, from the fact that the conclusion throughout London, of all with whom I have spoken, is a foregone conclusion, namely, that it is useless to attempt to amend the present system, and that there must be a commencement *de novo*, in giving to the metropolitan districts that which every other large town and city in the kingdom with far less means and responsibility possesses, and that is municipalities.

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

1 April 1867.

953. Do you propose to remedy whatever defects exist in the vestry system, by substituting municipal institutions for vestries?—I do.

954. Now, with regard to the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works, what system do you propose to substitute for the Metropolitan Board of Works, having subverted the vestries and substituted municipalities for them?—What I should propose would grow out of something else previously established.

955. You wish to establish municipalities to absorb and take the place of the existing vestries?—I do.

956. How would you propose to deal with the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Perhaps I might be permitted to say, as preliminary to the observations which I have been asked to make, that my own feeling is against having one municipality for the south, and one for the north, and that it is very much in favour of giving a municipality to every Parliamentary borough having population and wealth and extent sufficient to form out of itself, and complete in itself, a municipality equal to any municipality in the kingdom except the central one in the City. I think that a municipality for every Parliamentary borough would be the right thing; in Westminster it would consolidate a large number of vestry offices, and a large number of Boards and buildings; we have got the funds to form a nucleus for a hospital in Westminster, and funds for the relief of poor persons; we have already the elements necessary for a large and good municipality, and I believe they have the same in every other Parliamentary borough. Then I come to a question upon which it is very difficult indeed to give an opinion, namely, as to the Board or central authority which should get rid of the Metropolitan Board of Works. I think that municipal action should form a central board for certain purposes, which can be better performed by a central board than by the different seven or eight or nine municipalities separately.

957. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Do you mean that there are certain functions which you think could be better performed by a central board than by the separate municipal boards; and for those purposes, and for those purposes alone, you would have a central board?—It is so; I take among those objects which could be better performed by a representative or two from each municipality, the control of the arterial or main drainage; that of necessity would require a board representative of all the municipalities; I think that an electoral borough is large enough to have the control of its improvements, to have the control of its cleansing, to have the control of its pavements, and for all purposes of that kind they do not need a representative board. They

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

1 April 1867.

need a representative central Board for only one or two or three things, and that which I particularise most strongly in my view is the maintenance of the main sewers and main drainage.

958. Lord *John Manners.*] Assuming that the objects which you specify are essential to be carried out by some central body, how would you propose to constitute that central body?—I should say in proportion to the population and funds to be administered; in fact, to the interest which each locality has in the question, they should agree to send, in certain proportions, some of their own members to that central board. Take it that there are seven municipalities established in London; 20 members, or three from each if you take them equally, making them 21, would be abundant to superintend a special work like the drainage works, which are now nearly completed by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

959. Then you would apply the present system, which has been called the system of filtration, to the new central body that you would create; as the existing vestries elect members out of their own bodies, and of them constitute the Metropolitan Board, so, under the new system, the municipalities would elect members of their own bodies, and constitute them into the new central authority?—Yes, forming a central committee for that special work; I think it would be wholesome that the members of this proposed committee that I am speaking of, and the members of the municipalities also, should come on for re-election once a year.

960. Those works of which you have been speaking, such as the arterial or main drainage, which are to extend over a great portion of the metropolis, naturally, I presume, take a considerable time in execution?—With the exception of the northern main sewer, I think it is completed.

961. I am speaking of the future; you propose, do you not, that there should be some central authority to execute the very large works which extend over the greater portion of the metropolis?—It would be rather, I think, practically watching over their maintenance; I take it that within a year or two all those works that have been going on for so many years will be finished, and last as a whole for 150 years, but they will want watching.

962. But assuming that there are to be in the future large works which will extend over a considerable portion of the metropolis, and which would naturally be confined to the central authority which you propose to establish, are you of opinion that it would be advantageous that the members of that central authority should go out of office every year, when the works which they will be appointed to superintend and carry out might extend over several years?—I hesitate about giving an answer to that question in the affirmative, when I consider that a person having been engaged for 12 months upon a work which is not completed at the end of that time has his experience for that year thrown away; I can hardly plead for that, but practically this, great works certainly ought to be completed within a very few years, and then it would be merely the maintenance of a work of that sort.

963. But looking at what the metropolis is, and its growing wants, is it not quite fair to assume that any central authority which is created will, in process of time, have very great and extensive works to execute?—If the noble Lord can point out any works likely to arise, I could give him a definite answer, but that is so problematical that I cannot answer the question.

964. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you not think that a large majority of the members of the central board, unless they had given great dissatisfaction to their constituents, would be almost certain to be re-elected, so that in all probability no actual interruption of the works in progress would take place by its transfer from the hands of those who have acquired some knowledge of it, to those who are entirely inexperienced?—I would answer that question by saying that in the large works which we have in hand in the City, such as the construction of the Holborn Valley Viaduct, and the Smithfield Meat Market, the members are returned frequently year after year to the same committee, and we find the advantage of doing it.

965. Mr. *Locke.*] Is it not the rule in the City that members of the Court of Common Council are returned year after year for as many as 30 years together, without any break?—I have heard of such cases.

966. And the Common Council may, if they choose, put the member who is returned year after year, into any committee they please?—They do.

967. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] What makes you think you will get a better class of members upon those municipalities than you have upon your vestries?—I take it that the position given by being a member of the Corporation, from the ancient character of the corporations of the country, and the associations found in connection with the existence of a corporation, are of that sort that they commend themselves to persons who are not unwilling to get into public life, while there is no inducement of that sort in the vestries. The vestry business falls into the hands of very earnest honest men, but, as a whole, not fair representatives, I think, of the intelligence of their districts. They are certainly not superior to the generality.

968. Then the association is to be the whole reason why a better class of men, also earnest and honest but more intelligent, would come into the municipalities?—There are other reasons as well; I have suggested to my vestry, if possible to accomplish it, that seeing the advantage of giving gentlemen, after three or four hours work in a committee, the opportunity of having a chop together, there should be an appropriation, if they could legitimately do it, and if they had funds so as to give to the members of the vestry that which they receive at the house of any friend, or if they do any business gratuitously. The vestry unfortunately have no funds for that object, but they would do it immediately if they could.

969. You wish to extend the dinner system of the City to the metropolis?—If you please; I should not call it a dinner system.

970. The refreshment system?—Yes, the necessary refreshment system, in the absence of payments, for instance, of 5*s.* for the attendance of members, which I think vicious and bad.

971. Then are you of opinion that the public spirit of individuals in the City, and in the metropolis, requires to be supplemented by refreshments?—Everywhere; I think, unless there is something like social distinction, you cannot get men to devote themselves to public business.

972. You compared those gentlemen with the House

House of Commons just now; I presume you are aware that members of the House of Commons have to pay for their own dinners?—I would rather not enter into my view of the House of Commons, but there are said to be upwards of 250 members of the House of Commons who are members of joint stock companies. The position is so distinguished in the House of Commons, which consists of 600 and odd gentlemen out of 27 or 30 millions, that that in itself would account for the position being sought after.

973. Mr. *Mill.*] I think I understand you to state that, in your opinion, the members of the Corporation of the City of London have, in their character for intelligence, improved very much of late years?—Very much.

974. Do you think the same has been the case with regard to the members of vestries?—I think there has been a deterioration, and practically we have found a difficulty every year in getting a candidate in St. James's, Westminster. He is hunted for, and he gives his consent through being entreated, in fact solicited, as a personal favour, to become a candidate, and then he seldom comes in many cases.

975. Then do you think it is more and more difficult to induce the most desirable class of men to become vestrymen?—I do.

976. How do you account for the increasing difficulty in that respect?—I think that if the difficulty has been gradually increasing during the last 10 years, it is fair to assume that it will go on for the next 10 years.

977. Can you give the Committee any idea of what are the causes of this increasing reluctance to become members of vestries?—No, excepting that the major part of the works of an important character, and which gives dignity and character to the bodies who execute them, do not fall into the hands of the vestries for execution, but the works which give a little honour are taken from them and done by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

978. Do you think the office of vestryman is considered an office of much less importance than it used to be?—I think so.

979. And you think that that objection would not exist in the case of municipalities?—I think not.

980. Particularly if the functions of the central body were of the very restricted character which you seem to anticipate?—Yes.

981. Do you not think that there are other things besides the main drainage which would properly come under the jurisdiction of the central body, for instance, a matter which has excited a good deal of discussion, and is now before Parliament, namely, the regulation of the traffic of the metropolis; do you not think that regulations for that purpose might advantageously be made by such a central body as you are proposing?—It might, but the position and necessities of one borough so differ from the position and necessities of another borough, that if you legislate for the borough of Westminster, you would enforce regulations which would be extremely inconvenient for the borough of the Tower Hamlets, or for the borough of Greenwich; and therefore though a central board might be entrusted with those things, I do not think that in such matters a necessity arises for one board as against separate jurisdictions.

982. On the other hand, do you not think there is a great advantage in having those regulations, as far as convenience admits, uniform, in order that people may know what regulations they have to observe, and may not have to commit to memory a great many different systems of regulations?—That would be a great advantage, no doubt.

Mr. *J. Medwin.* 1 April 1867.

983. You have made some general remarks upon the administration by vestries, but I do not think you have made any full statement on the subject; will you state in a few words what you consider to be the defects of the present system, which you would wish to remedy by substituting municipalities for vestries?—I think that in vestries there is wanting the bond of pecuniary results and interests which bind many committees and bodies of men together, and under which they work effectually; there are other societies which are brought together by a desire to do good, and in those a feeling of philanthropy is the bond, but I know of no bond of that kind, or of any other sufficient kind operating upon the minds of vestrymen, so as to secure the intelligence of a parish or district, and that love for the work which I see evinced elsewhere.

984. Then in the Corporation of London, I suppose you think that the desire to keep up the credit of the Corporation is the bond of union which you desiderate in the other cases?—I do.

985. And you do not think that that desire exists in the case of vestries?—I do not.

986. But you think that it would exist in the case of municipalities?—I do.

987. You think that there would be a general feeling for the honour and credit of the municipality which does not exist with regard to a parish or vestry?—That is my opinion. I think they would have greater power. A municipality would not exist long without either obtaining by Act of Parliament, or from other sources, some opportunity for their members to come together occasionally for social purposes, for conversaziones, or for lectures. Something of that sort would grow out of every municipality, and would constitute a bond of union and an inducement of an interested character to bring people into the new corporations, which do not exist now or in the case of the vestries.

988. You think the vestries are not sufficiently large or important bodies to excite that feeling?—They are not, and important works are denied to them.

989. Mr. *Locke.*] Has it suggested itself to your mind, with regard to these social meetings and so forth, who was to pay for them in those small municipalities?—I made the remark that either the law should provide for them, or they would be provided doubtless from other sources.

990. When you say "other sources," that term of very general import, from what sources do you suppose they would be provided?—I apprehend that a district or borough would in each of its separate parts come to a vote upon the question. A proposition would be made before it, and by the votes of the ratepayers a certain something would be taken out of the rates and appropriated in this manner.

991. Do you not think that instead of being a certain something, it would be an extremely uncertain something?—I do not.

992. Then what do you mean exactly by "a certain something"?—I say this, that the Legislature might allow one fourth per cent., or one

Mr. *J. Medwin.* 1 April 1867.

thirty-second per cent., upon all funds which the municipality had to administer for covering the general expenses of the municipality away from its officers.

993. In addition to the payment of the officers?—Yes.

994. Supposing Marylebone were made into a municipality, the Corporation would levy rates, and how much do you say it would be in the pound upon those rates?—Fifteen pence in every 100*l.*, or, say 2*s.* 6*d.*

995. You mean in each pound, I suppose?—Some small charge in each 100*l.*

996. What do you mean by 15*d.* in each 100*l.*?—I mean just that commission which many stock-brokers receive for the transfer of 100*l.*

997. But do you not think they would be all starved upon that?—No, I do not.

998. How much do you suppose Marylebone is going to collect, if the whole corporation is to be fed upon the principle of the City of London, upon 1*s.* 3*d.* in the 100*l.*?—If the Honourable Member will tell me how much 1*s.* 3*d.* upon 2,000,000 is, he will see what the Corporation of London would have.

999. You think Marylebone would have 2,000,000?—I have not gone into the question of figures, but if the Committee will allow me I will go into the figures.

1000. *Chairman.*] The whole rates of Marylebone for the local administration, exclusive of the poor rate, would be 72,754*l.* a-year?—That may be so.

1001. Mr. *Locke.*] We are not speaking of the magnificent funds which you have in the City of London, but upon the 72,000*l.* you would get from 36*l.* to 40*l.*; do you think that would answer the purpose of a corporation at Marylebone so to feed themselves, when they had the example of the City of London, who did things upon such a much better scale; and do you think anybody would be anxious to form part of a large corporation with 40*l.* a-year to distribute amongst themselves in dinners?—Certainly not.

1002. Then 15*d.* in the 100*l.* would not do?—No; perhaps I should make myself better understood if I said that a sum amounting to 3,000*l.* or 5,000*l.* a-year would be enough for their purpose in Marylebone.

1003. Are the Committee to understand that your proposition is that 5,000*l.* a-year must be taken out of the rates raised in Marylebone for the purpose of feeding their corporation? No.

1004. Then what is to be done with it?—It should be spent in doing for the corporation of Marylebone that which is done for the Corporation of London; I do not call it feeding; it might be for an evening party, or a ball.

1005. You think it should be spent in amusements?—I will not say amusements.

1006. Some intellectual, and others physical?—That is it.

1007. Then I presume you would apply precisely the same rule to the other seven corporations; what law would you propose which should regulate those new corporations which you are about to form; do you suggest the Municipal Corporation Act?—I should think its provisions, mainly modified, would be sufficient.

1008. Then, of course, if you applied the Municipal Corporation Act to those seven new corporations, you could hardly leave the City of London in a state that did not tally at all with them; and you must apply the Municipal Corporation Act to the City of London also, must you not, because it would be so inconvenient to have seven municipal corporations, with entirely different rules and regulations from the Corporation of London; and it would be desirable to have some uniformity?—I do not know; they would be entirely different.

1009. Have you ever read the Municipal Corporation Act?—I think I have.

1010. If you have read so long an Act you must be sure about it?—I think I read it some three or four years ago.

1011. But you have not much recollection of it?—I have not.

1012. Then it is much the same thing as if you had not read it?—I think I am prepared to say, from my recollection of it, that there would be no great difference between the provisions of that Act, and the provisions under which the new municipal corporations would be established, and the general principles which govern the Corporation of London.

1013. Then you would have no objection to have the Corporation of London put under the Municipal Corporation Act?—I should have a great objection; I say, here is an institution which has been in times past, and is at the present time, of immense service to the State.

1014. But you are now going into a rhapsody I was merely asking an ordinary common-place question; would you object to have the Corporation of London put under the Municipal Corporation Act?—I catch the meaning of your question, and the answer which you want me to give.

1015. I do not want you to give me any answer which you do not mean; would you object to see the Corporation of London put under the Municipal Corporation Act?—That is a Corporation which has been existing for 800 years, and has a history; it is like a hospital established 400 years ago, and which is not to be on all-fours with a hospital established four years ago.

1016. I am not putting it on all-fours; it is all eights; but you do not mean to say, with your great research in these matters, that the institutions of the Corporation at the present time at all resembles those of the Corporation of 800 years ago?—In many points they are essentially the same.

1017. Will you mention one important point of resemblance between the Corporation of the present day and the Corporation of 800 years ago?—One important point of resemblance is, that the Corporation then represented and served the intelligence and interests of the citizens well and honestly, and that the Corporation now does the same thing.

1018. Exactly; but their institutions were not similar?—No one expects that for 800 years any thing can be unchangeable.

1019. Do you recollect hearing of the reign of King George the First?—Yes.

1020. Do you recollect that there was an Act of Parliament passed in the 11th year of the reign of King George the First, touching the elections of the City of London, and putting them on an entirely new basis?—I thought it was in the reign of Charles the Second.

1021. The Act of Charles the Second took away your privileges away, did it not?—Another Act gave them back again.

1022. William the Third gave you them back. Then you had the great Inspeximus Act of William the Third; but since that, in the reign of George the First, there was the Act of Parliament passed

passed for the regulation of municipal elections in the City of London, and that is the Act under which you move now; you have made two or three amendments since that to that Act, extending it to the occupiers, but originally persons were obliged to reside under that Act, and now, I believe in this Session of Parliament, you are endeavouring to make another change?—That is so.

1023. *Chairman.*] An entirely new constitution for the City of London?—Not entirely new.

1024. Mr. *Locke.*] Perhaps you are not aware that no man at the present moment can vote for the City unless he is a freeman?—I am quite aware of it.

1025. Then you strike them out?—No, we do not strike them out. I hope the Committee will allow me to say that we denude no man of his privileges.

1026. If you will only try to understand the questions put to you, probably you will answer them. Does not this new proposal extend to everybody who is an occupier of the necessary qualification, a vote in the municipality of the City of London, whether he be a freeman or not?—It does not.

1027. Is not that the object of the Bill?—No.

1028. Then what is the object of the Bill?—The object of the Bill is to give a vote to every man who is not only an occupier, but is upon the Parliamentary register.

1029. Persons on the Parliamentary register are not necessarily freemen, are they?—No.

1030. But persons on the municipal register at the present moment in the City of London are necessarily freemen, are they not?—All of them, I think.

1031. *Chairman.*] Is it not an entire subversion of the old Corporation of London, if the basis upon which it stands has been entirely subverted?—I do not call it a subversion of my house if I build another room to it.

1032. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] But if you pull up the old foundation, it is a subversion, is it not?—We do not pull up the old foundation.

1033. Mr. *Locke.*] Was it not some few years back that proceedings were taken by the City of London against any person who set up a retail shop in the City of London, without being a freeman?—That is notorious.

1034. Do you recollect the case of Chamberlain and Sturt, where the question was tried, when Mr. Charles Pearson was City Solicitor, with the Manchester warehousemen in the City, as to whether they were retailers or wholesale dealers, and when the jury found against the City of London?—I thought there was no decision at all.

1035. There was a decision I know, because I was in the case; and since that time no proceedings of the kind have been attempted?—I dare say not.

1036. And, therefore, since that attempt there has been no attempt to force people to become free of the City?—I should think not.

1037. Then now another step is taken to give anybody a vote, whether freeman or not, supposing they come up with the other requirements in the Bill which is about to be introduced?—That is the right thing to do.

1038. Without reference to whether it is right or wrong, I am asking you, having made that admission, whether the City of London at the present moment is the same as the City of London was, I will say, 20 years ago?—I see changes every year, and the City of London and the Corporation, as far as it can, accommodates itself to the wants of the country.

1039. And the constitution of the City of London changes every year?—No doubt, in some particular or other.

1040. Then we need not go back 800 years?—As you please; but it is a matter of taste.

1041. But you would rather go back 800 years, although things have been altered entirely since then; are you aware that the Cinque Ports are very ancient places?—Yes.

1042. Are they not almost as ancient, if not quite as ancient, as the City of London?—I should think not.

1043. Is not a place called Hastings one of them?—Yes.

1044. That has been reformed, and is under the Municipal Corporations Act, is it not?—Yes.

1045. Therefore it is not the antiquity of a place, is it, which preserves it from improvement?—No, I can tell you, however, what does preserve it from violent improvement. Two or three reports have been made by Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the character of the municipalities of the country, and at the same time into the character, conduct, and position of the municipality of London, and they came to the conclusion (I have seen it distinctly in some report) that they need not touch the City of London, because it did not want it, but that every other corporation did.

1046. The report was, that the inquiry into the Corportion of the City of London was to be a separate one; and an inquiry took place, not only into the Corporation of London, but into the constitution of all the companies, and that was called the Second Report of the Commissioners. Then, secondly, to that there was another report made by a Commission, on which Sir George Cornewall Lewis, I think, was secretary in the first instance and a commissioner in the last, in which certain alterations were suggested. However, there is no doubt that the City of London had, under a charter of King Edward III., power to make alterations to a very great extent, and that they did it from time to time; but in consequence of the passing of that Act of the 11 Geo. 1, they were precluded from making those alterations, and, therefore, they are obliged to come to Parliament to make them; is that so?—It was not their fault that they did not progress with the times. I have here the report made by Sir George Lewis, President of the Royal Commission, in which he gives the reason.

1047. The Committee have that report before them. I recollect Sir George Lewis saying in the House of Commons that he thought that the extension of the Corporation of London throughout the metropolis would not be advisable, because they could not inquire as to the interests of each remote portion of the metropolis, or something of that description, and therefore I think that that Commission advised that there should be separate corporations throughout the metropolis; is that so?—The words are these: "We concur in the opinion given by the Lord Mayor in his evidence before our Commission, that as the Legislature has already decided to enfranchise other portions of the metropolis as Parliamentary boroughs, the Legislature ought to complete the work by enfranchising them for municipal purposes. We think, indeed, that if an attempt were made to give a municipal organisation to the

Mr. *J. Medwin.* 1 April 1867.

entire metropolis by a wider extension of the present boundaries of the City, the utility of the present Corporation as an institution suited to its present limited area would be destroyed. We see no reason why the benefit of municipal institutions should not be extended to the rest of the metropolis, by its division into municipal districts, each possessing a municipal government of its own." Mr. Gladstone, speaking in 1858, said, "That he did not abandon the hope that we might see a larger and much more effective application of the valuable principle of municipal self-government to the metropolis than any that had hitherto been made."

1048. But Mr. Gladstone did not confine himself to dividing the metropolis into small municipalities, but he said that a larger amount of municipal power should be given to it, was not that so?—I do not know.

1049. Does it not strike you that one principal objection to the dividing of the metropolis into small municipalities would be a want of funds in those municipalities?—It does not.

1050. Then, do you think that all those expenses might be met by a rate?—Yes; I think that there would be an almost unanimous vote in favour of the grant and for this important reason: that with a grant of 5,000*l.* a year, for instance, to Marylebone for the sustentation of the dignity of its municipality, there would be a corresponding saving to the extent of another 5,000*l.*

1051. Are you aware that that difficulty with regard to the raising of money in municipalities for other purposes than distinctly public purposes is very much felt in the municipalities throughout the kingdom?—I am not aware of it.

1052. Has your attention ever been drawn to it in the case of the city of York, for instance?—I have never heard the complaint.

1053. Have you ever been in the way of hearing it?—I have.

1054. In what city or borough?—I have friends in different parts of the country; I know Dover very well, and I know Ramsgate

1055. That has no municipality?—No. I know High Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire, very well; I was born there.

1056. Have they any private funds at those places?—I know that they have opportunities of maintaining what I call the dignity of the municipality.

1057. Some of those municipalities have distinct funds which they can apply to that purpose, have they not?—Yes, and those funds would increase, I believe.

1058. I am referring to those municipalities which have to support everything simply out of the rates?—No one would think of leaving trust funds to the vestries, but they would leave funds in trust to a municipality.

1059. But are you not aware that a vast number of corporations have not been so lucky as to have those funds left them, and that they do find it inconvenient to keep up the dignity of the corporation out of the rates?—I do not know that.

1060. Mr. *Kekewich.*] You said that you thought that a part of the duty of those municipal corporations would be to administer funds for poor persons; did you mean by that charities, or that you would merge the boards of guardians into the municipal bodies?—I do not remember saying anything in reference to that.

1061. Would you think it expedient to merge the boards of guardians in those municipal corporations?—No, I should think not.

1062. Would you keep them perfectly distinct?—I think so.

1063. You say that you have been a member of the vestry, I think, of St. James's?—Yes.

1064. And now of Camberwell and Lambeth?—My place of residence is divided, being partly in Lambeth, and partly in Camberwell, which qualifies me for both; but I am not a member of the vestries there.

1065. Are you very well acquainted with the vestries of those parishes?—Yes.

1066. Supposing that a Bill were introduced into Parliament for establishing those separate municipalities which you speak of, do you think that those vestries would petition for or against such a measure?—I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the persons from all the vestries around London, and there was an undivided declaration of sentiment that nothing would now do for them but to have municipalities, and that they were more convinced than ever that a municipality was a thing which they wanted for local government; I believe that nine-tenths of the inhabitants of every metropolitan borough, if they gave a vote at all, would be in favour of municipalities.

1067. But supposing that you were to elect a municipal council, would not the same persons be members of that council, as are now members of the vestry?—Many of them.

1068. Are they not the principal people in the parish?—No, they are not the principal people in the parish.

1069. Would they be a different class of people?—I believe that they would be a superior class.

1070. Mr. *Turner.*] You stated, did you not, you regard the Corporation of the City of London as a very faithful administrator of public funds?—I do.

1071. Do you recollect the total amount which is administered by the Corporation of London?—I do not.

1072. Mr. *Tite.*] With regard to those municipalities of which you have spoken, do you think that there should be a mayor and aldermen, and something like a common council in each of those seven districts?—Precisely as there are in other municipalities.

1073. Do you mean as in the case of the Corporation of London, or according to the Act, to which my learned friend has adverted?—If I understand the honourable Member rightly, my answer would be that if there were seven municipalities there would be seven mayors.

1074. And seven sets of aldermen?—Yes.

1075. Then you are quite aware, I suppose, that in the Bill which regulates all that matter they are not annually elected, but the aldermen are elected for three years, and the corporators for three years?—I thought that the corporators were elected for one year, but if the honourable Member tells me that it is not so, I receive his testimony at once.

1076. However, you would like to have them always elected annually?—I think that for corporators it would be salutary, and I think that I might concede that the aldermen should be elected every three years.

1077. But you think that at the same time they ought to have the power of ordering a chop after they have had a hard day's work?—Certainly.

1078. O

1078. Or of entertaining persons with a ball or soirée, or whatever might be reasonable?—I do.

1079. You state, do you not, that you think that the parties who would be returned to those municipalities would not be the same as those returned to the vestries?—I said just now that I thought that they would be very much the same in many quarters.

1080. *Chairman.*] Did you not state that in some cases they would be the same, and in others a superior class of persons?—I said that they would be the same, and a superior class of persons.

1081. Mr. *Tite.*] In your own vestry, are there not a great many gentlemen of a very superior class, such as in Lord Elcho for instance, and the Honourable Frederick Byng?—He is a very nice gentlemanly man.

1082. But he pays great attention to the business of the vestry, does he not?—He has paid great attention to it.

1083. The gentleman who represents your vestry of St. James's has always represented it from the original constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works, has he not?—I think that for a short time there was some one else there.

1084. His own answer is that he has represented it, except for the first fortnight?—I do not know how long it is; I thought that there was some other person there, when I went into the vestry; he has been a member since I have been a member of the vestry.

1085. Have you ever contested the position with him?—I was in the same ward.

1086. That would not hinder you, does it?—Is it quite necessary that I should give an answer to that question?

1087. It is a simple question; have you ever had a contest with any gentleman who now represents your vestry?—I have not been a candidate; I voted I might say for Mr. Bidgood on each occasion.

1088. The question is, "Mr. *Kekewich.*] Is the conduct of the Metropolitan Board approved of in your vestry?" and the answer is, "The conduct of the Metropolitan Board has been called in question by several distinct notices of motion in our vestry, and we have had a fair stand-up fight for it; but I have invariably secured a vote in favour of the Metropolitan Board." Mr. Bidgood gave that answer; do you concur in it?—The facts would not have justified that statement, in my opinion.

1089. I do not want you to go into the fourpenny rate question, but up to the time of the fourpenny rate was it not so?—There have been a good many stand-up fights; there was one when the question was involved with reference to Mr. Bazalgette and his engagement at Odessa, and there was another also with reference to what the vestry thought was some unfair manipulation about the giving of a contract, and several subjects of that sort; there have been stand-up fights, but I do not remember the results.

1090. There is no doubt about the fighting; what I want is the result?—I cannot give from recollection the voting which took place; as to that, I do not know whether it is true or not.

1091. Are the St. James's vestry trustees for anything; have you any estates?—They are trustees for St. Quentin's Bounty; they are trustees for some pest-house estates, I think, and for several things.

1092. I suppose that they administer them faithfully?—I believe that they do.

1093. And the Corporation of London do the same?—No doubt.

1094. Englishmen are rather remarkable, are they not, for doing things in a very plain and honest way?—Yes, and I believe that sometimes very plain and honest men do it better than those who have decorations about them.

1095. Mr. *Bentinck.*] You stated, in answer to my honourable friend on my right, and also to an honourable friend opposite, as I understood you, that you considered it desirable that there should be a superior class of persons upon the vestry?—I do.

1096. And you have also stated that if the municipality were to take the place of the vestry, a superior class of persons would be obtained in your opinion?—That is my opinion.

1097. You have probably seen the evidence which Mr. Beal gave to this Committee last year. He founded his opinion, which is identical with yours, upon that point, upon the ground that superior persons would desire to be members of the municipalities who will not now stand for the position of vestrymen, is that so?—That is my opinion, but I do not think that I have seen his evidence.

1098. What is your ground for supposing that?—I think I have stated several grounds in the evidence which I have already given.

1099. Do you mean that a man who would not be a vestryman, would be willing to be an alderman?—A man who does not care about being a vestryman, would like to be a common councillor.

1100. Do you think that they would attend better?—I do.

1101. Do you think that gentlemen such as Lord Elcho, and others of that class, who are now members of vestries, would attend better if they were aldermen?—I should say that, in Lord Elcho's case, he has never been at the vestry yet since his election, and I think that Lord Wynford, who is a member still, has been, perhaps, twice in two years; but it is understood that they do not come.

1102. Is it your opinion that, if the municipality took the place of the vestry, then those gentlemen who you say are members of the vestry, and who do not attend the vestry now, would attend the municipality?—No, I do not think they would join the council; those cases are quite exceptional.

1103. My question referred generally to gentlemen in an independent position?—I am dealing with the staple of the vestry taken as a whole.

1104. I understand that the superior class of persons to whom you refer would be persons such as you have referred to in the case of the City, who are possessed of 3,000*l.* or 2,500*l.* a-year, gentlemen of independent fortune, that being, as you stated, the great advantage to the City Corporation?—I stated that they were gentlemen with incomes of from 2,000*l.* to 3,000*l.* a-year.

1105. You say that that class of persons are not now members of the vestries to the extent which you would desire?—Certainly not.

1106. But do you think that if there was a municipality, and if there was a mayor and corporation, then those persons would come?—I think so.

Mr. *J. Medwin.*

1 April 1867.

1107. What class of persons are in the habit of attending the vestry now generally?—I have stated distinctly that they are not in a position which I should like vestrymen to occupy, but I would prefer not going into names and callings.

1108. In fact the smaller class of tradesmen belong to it?—Yes.

1109. You have stated that you are of opinion that the inhabitants of St. James's would prefer to have a municipality rather than that any increased power should be given to the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Undoubtedly.

1110. Is that so in your experience?—That is so from my knowledge of the case, and from the proceedings and history of what has happened.

1111. Do you suppose that that is the case with the whole of the superior district of London: for instance, in St. George's, Hanover-square, where you must have neighbours?—I am not prepared to speak about St. George's, Hanover-square, but I know it to be the case in many quarters. St. George's, Hanover-square, is a part of Westminster.

1112. But St. George's, Hanover-square, is very near the street where you reside?—I rather think that St. George's, Hanover-square, has pronounced in favour of a municipality for Westminster.

1113. But I am speaking of the intelligence and rateable value. You stated that it was not a question of population, but that, so far as you are acquainted with their opinion and intelligence, that opinion was entirely against any centralisation by the Metropolitan Board of Works; would you be very much surprised if I told you that all the intelligence of the parish of St. George's, Hanover-square, so far as I know, are entirely of an opposite view?—I thought that it was otherwise. May I ask how that opinion has been elicited?

1114. It has been elicited by its being expressed from one to another?—In the vestry?

1115. Not in the vestry. Do you consider the vestry as the exponent of the intelligence of the parish?—Yes, in the absence of anything better.

1116. Do you consider it the expression of the intelligence of the parish?—No; but the persons with whom the honourable Member would associate would be different from those persons with whom I should associate.

1117. I quite agree with you that the vestry is not an expression of the opinion of the intelligence of the parish?—I should say, so far as I know the intelligence of the parish, that the intelligence is in favour of municipalities. Whether I am acquainted with the intelligence or not, is a question.

1118. I understand you to say that the municipality for Westminster would not be able to discharge all the duties which might be thrown upon it, because they could not sufficiently have the direction of the main thoroughfares and the main sewers, but that you would be obliged to have a second body elected by those municipalities, who should have the direction of those works; is that your view?—That is not precisely my opinion.

1119. But did you not say that you would be obliged to have a second body as well as a municipality?—I said that I thought it would be desirable.

1120. That is to say, in your opinion, the new municipalities for Westminster could not discharge the whole of the functions that might be thrown upon it?—I thought it would have jointly with other municipalities to elect a committee for general purposes.

1121. So that you would be obliged to have two governing bodies instead of one governing body?—It would be desirable, I think; but I am not clear about it.

1122. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You have been asked whether the Corporation of London is the same now as it was centuries ago; and I think you stated that it has changed itself according to the times?—Yes.

1123. Is it not a great argument why the Corporation of London should not be included in measures similar to those which have been applied to former old corporations, because it has manifested a capability of adjusting itself to the varying circumstances of the times?—I should think so; I have no doubt about it.

1124. You were asked why the Corporation of London should preserve a distinctive character, while all around it should be formed into municipal corporations upon the basis of the Municipal Corporation Act; is it not the fact that in every capital of Europe the municipality of that capital is placed upon a different footing from any municipality in any of the towns of that country?—I am not cognisant of that.

1125. Are you not aware that in Paris there are various municipalities surrounding a central municipality?—I do not know whether the *arrondissements* of Paris represent different municipalities.

1126. Are you not aware that in the great capitals of Europe the local government is entirely upon a different footing from the local government of any of the towns within those countries?—No.

1127. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you know that in Paris the municipality is entirely nominated by the Crown?—I have understood that it is a representative of the Crown, and not of the people.

1128. Mr. *Sandford.*] Do you not think those municipalities would lead to much greater expense than the present system?—I think they would save half the expenditure.

1129. Do you not find that the tendency of a municipality is rather on the side of expense?—No; I think I stated in the early part of my evidence that I believe the trust funds of the Corporation of London are administered with more economy and with faithfulness equal to that of the administration of any trust in the kingdom.

1130. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you aware that there has been a proposition placed before this Committee, that there should be a certain number of paid aldermen in each municipality who should form a central board of some 30 or 40 members, who should each be paid 1,000 *l.* a-year, and who should manage the metropolis; would that, in your opinion, be a satisfactory arrangement for the metropolis?—I should think it most undesirable.

1131. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] I presume, in your opinion, it would be a satisfactory arrangement to the 40 gentlemen selected?—No doubt.

1132. You have stated that nearly all the vestries wished to repudiate connection with the Metropolitan Board, is that only an opinion of your own, or is it founded upon any resolutions?—I think I said "action," and not "connection."

1133. I suppose you mean that they repudiate joint

joint action with it?—The fact is that all the metropolitan vestries, with the exception of three or four, are antagonistic to the Metropolitan Board of Works.

1134. Then, in your opinion, the Metropolitan Board is not practically, as you said, a representative body?—I should say that it has become (if I might give it a broad distinction from a representative body) the obsequious servant of the Home Minister and the Government for the time being; that is my view of it.

1135. But supposing that to be the case, when the re-election of the members of that Board comes, the constituents have their remedy, have they not?—Certainly; and they will use it at the next election, doubtless.

1136. I understood you to say that for certain definite and rather larger purposes there should be some kind of central board existing, elected, according to your view, from the municipalities which you propose; I presume you meant that it should be elected from among their own members?—I should think that would be the better course.

1137. Would not that board be equally exposed to the epithet, "centralisation," which you applied to the Metropolitan Board?—I should think not.

1138. Centralisation is a long word, and not a very popular one in the country; what is the difference, whether a central board elected by the municipalities, or as now, a central board elected by the present representative bodies?—Without going into a description of the various influences that would operate upon it, I have no hesitation in saying that such would be the result.

1139. But would it not be equally centralisation?—The Metropolitan Board of Works at the present moment is not at all responsive to or representative of the feelings of the ratepayers.

1140. But how would the central board be more so?—It would be more so, certainly; if an election took place every year upon the principle stated by the honourable Member for Southwark, namely, that a man could be continued upon a committee if he behaved himself and carried out the wishes of his constituents, for 10 or 20 years.

1141. *Chairman.*] The change would arise from the election being annual instead of triennial?—No doubt.

1142. Is it not the case that all the duties performed by the vestry of Marylebone are performed by the Commissioners of Sewers in the City of London?—Most of them are, I should say.

1143. Are they more responsible?—I think not.

1144. The administration of the consolidated rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* is committed to them, is it not?—It is.

1145. And that is the rate, is it not, which corresponds with the rate levied in Marylebone for all the purposes of local government, such as watching, lighting, paving, cleansing the streets, and so forth?—I think there is some difference; one of the differences would be, that out of that 1 *s.* 6 *d.* rate, there are powers given them by Act of Parliament to round off corners of streets wherever there are angularities.

1146. The same power is given to the parish of Marylebone, is it not?—They never exercise it, I think.

1147. Have you found any difficulty in getting persons to be Commissioners of Sewers in the City?—No; they are taken out of the members of the Corporation.

1148. Are you a Commissioner of Sewers?—I am not.

1149. The Commissioners, I believe, perform all those duties without charging the rates with any money for entertaining themselves and other people?—I think without a farthing.

1150. And are those duties as efficiently performed in the City of London as in other parishes?—I should think more so.

1151. When you speak of money being given for entertainments, do you mean that money is to be given as a reward to the governing persons, to be expended amongst themselves, or do you mean money to be applied by them for the benefit of the district?—The illustration is this: there is a committee of the Corporation, consisting of six aldermen and 30 members.

1152. But with regard to your new scheme, in which you propose that the rates are to be charged with a certain sum for entertainments, did you mean that the money was to be applied by the governing body towards entertaining themselves and their friends, or was it to be applied by them for the general purposes of the corporate district?—In the same way as the funds are used by the Corporation of London; not only for themselves, but for the inhabitants of the City. It is very largely spent upon persons resident in the City. A member of the Committee has the privilege when a dinner takes place, of taking perhaps a friend or so; lately, in the Markets Committee, we have had four or five of the wholesale butchers of London present at our dinners, who will be most likely our future tenants.

1153. Then you mean this money to be applied in the same manner?—Yes.

1154. Do you think it would be very satisfactory to the humbler classes of the ratepayers that they should raise rates for the purpose of feeding at entertainments the upper class of the ratepayers?—I should not put it in that way; I should say that the poorer class of ratepayers in a municipality would be very glad to do what they thought right; and they would think it right, I think, to give their portion of the rates to the maintenance of the dignity of the body representing them.

1155. Especially if they take no part in the pleasure of the dignity?—I do not think that question will arise in their minds.

1156. Is there not a committee of the Corporation called the "Parliamentary Committee," which watches over Bills in Parliament?—There is a Parliamentary Committee.

1157. Are you a member of that committee?—I am not.

1158. Mr. *Bentinck.*] I understand you to state that you consider that a sum of from 3,000 *l.* to 5,000 *l.* a-year should be expended by each municipality in entertainments; will you explain to the Committee whether you meant that to apply to the whole of the municipalities, taken as an aggregate, or to each of the seven municipalities?—That was not my evidence in the first place; my evidence was in reply to a question put by an honourable Member, as to the borough of Marylebone, which is one of the largest and wealthiest boroughs; and I said then that my figures referred to that borough; whether the same sum should be granted in each of the municipalities, I think should be very much in the

Mr. *J. Medwin.* 1 April 1867.

hands, and at the discretion of the municipalities themselves; I think nothing violent should be done, but my belief is, that it would come by almost the unanimous vote of the inhabitants of the locality.

1159. Sir *William Gallwey.*] Do you think that in case new municipalities were established, the office of mayor, chief magistrate, or whatever you may call him, would be an object of ambition?—I do.

1160. In that case do you think you would find some rich nobleman or gentleman who would be willing to undertake a considerable portion of the expenses of the entertainments, in return for the honour, and, I suppose, the influence which such an office would naturally confer upon him?—That is a difficult question to answer.

1161. You are aware, I presume, that a great deal of the expenditure in some of our large towns falls upon the principal inhabitant who holds the office of mayor?—It is so. Whether noblemen would ever fill the office of mayor I am doubtful; but I am quite sure the result would be that men of wealth would.

1162. And if men of wealth filled the office you might naturally expect that they would be willing to give a *quid pro quo*?—I think it is likely that they would. I think there would be no pressure upon the poor-rate payers for the amount necessary to maintain the dignity of the Corporation. It would come by itself, no doubt.

Benjamin Scott, Esq., re-called; and further Examined.

B. Scott, Esq.

1163. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with your statement respecting the inadequacy of the representation of the City upon the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I have made a calculation from the list of the last rateable return of the rating of the whole of the districts of the metropolis, which shows that, with the exception of the district of Paddington, the City is the worse represented district in the metropolis. There is something to be said in favour of Paddington, but with that exception there is no district in the metropolis which is placed at such a disadvantage as the City of London. Taking the rental of the City of London, each member returned by the City exercises a fiscal power of 703,045 *l.* There are three members for the City, and therefore each member exercises a taxing power equal to one-third of the whole rental of the City of London. I have prepared a list which shows the relative fiscal power of each member of the Board. Paddington stands at the head with 768,344 *l.*, then the City stands next at 703,045 *l.* The fiscal power of each member then declines through the series, until it terminates in Woolwich with only 83,000 *l.*—(*The Witness handed in the table,* vide *Appendix.*) Therefore I contend that there is one member in Woolwich to represent 83,000 *l.* of taxable rental. There is something like between eight and nine times the taxable rental represented by a member in the City, and consequently it has about one-eighth or one-ninth part only of representation as compared with Woolwich. Those are the extreme cases. I will put a few cases of comparison before the Committee, which will perhaps put it in a stronger light. The rateable property in the City is eightfold that of Limehouse; tenfold that of Holborn; tenfold that of Rotherhithe; tenfold that of St. Olave's; tenfold that of St. George's-in-the-East; elevenfold that of Mile End Old Town, St. Luke's, and Bethnal Green; twelvefold that of St. Saviour's; fourteenfold that of Hampstead, Bermondsey, and St. George's, Southwark; and twenty-fivefold that of Woolwich. The aggregate rateable value of the whole of those 12 districts is 2,080,592 *l.*, and the aggregate rateable value of the City of London is 2,109,935 *l.* Now the lesser amount of taxable property, that is to say, the twelve districts is represented at the Board by 12 members, whereas the greater amount of taxable property, that is to say, in the City of London, is represented at the Board by only three members. Perhaps that would be sufficient upon that point. I could go further, but to save the time of the Committee I would merely state that we think that at the Board, considering the largeness of the population of London, which is 3,000,000, the taxable rental of London being 15,250,000 *l.*, the inhabitants of the metropolis, including those of the City, are most inadequately represented, considering the enormous power which the representatives on that Board exercise. I have made a comparison of the powers exercised by a single member of the Board, and the powers exercised by the various corporations in the country, and if the Committee will allow me, I will read a list of corporations in which there is no such power vested in the whole aggregate town council as is exercised by a single member of the Metropolitan Board of Works. That applies to the corporations of Bath, Birkenhead, Cheltenham, Derby, Exeter, Ashton-under-Lyne, Cambridge, Southampton, Chester, Winchester, Colchester, York, Coventry, Dover, Dudley, Durham, Gateshead, Gloucester, Halifax, Hastings, Wigan, Weymouth, Tamworth, Hereford, Huddersfield, Ipswich, Kidderminster, Lancaster, Lincoln, Macclesfield, Maidstone, Northampton, Oxford, Warwick, Walsall, Reading, Rochdale, Rochester, Salisbury, Shrewsbury, Shields, Stafford, Stockport, Worcester, Yarmouth, Wakefield, and Tynemouth. What I wish the Committee to understand is, that the Legislature have conferred upon town councils certain power, but that the power which is conferred upon *one* member of the Metropolitan Board, has now grown to be such that it outweighs the influence exercised by the whole town councils of a large number of the corporations in this country, excluding only the very largest. There is one other matter with respect to the Board of Works which I was requested to point out, viz., that the present construction of the Board is opposed to the representation of the Commissioners who sat in 1854. The Commissioners recommended that municipal corporations should be established in the unenfranchised parts of London, and that out of those corporations there should grow a Board of Works. The present Board of Works has not been founded upon municipal institutions, but has been founded upon vestries which is in contravention to the recommendations of that Commission. I will read the two paragraphs from the report of the Commissioners, who were Sir George Lewis, Lord Taunton, and Mr. Justice Patteson: "We think, indeed, that if an attempt

attempt were made to give a municipal organisation in the entire metropolis, by a wider extension of the present boundaries of the City, the utility of the present Corporation, as an institution suited to its present limited area, would be destroyed; while at the same time a municipal administration of an excessive magnitude, and therefore ill adapted to the wants of the other parts of the metropolis, would be created. But we see no reason why the benefit of municipal institutions should not be extended to the rest of the metropolis by its division into municipal districts, each possessing a municipal government of its own. What the form of this government should be, and what should be the number or extent of the districts, are questions not lying within the scope of our Commission." Then the Report a little further on states, "In the event of a division of the entire metropolis, such as we have ventured to indicate, being hereafter made by the authority of Parliament, we suggest the creation of a Metropolitan Board of Works, to be composed of a very limited number of members deputed to it from the council of each metropolitan municipal body, including the Corporation of the City." What I wish to lay before the Committee is, that the present Metropolitan Board of Works represents the vestries, and whatever interests may be associated with the vestries of the metropolis; but that it does not represent municipal institutions such as were recommended to be founded by that Commission.

1164. Mr. *Locke.*] The Board was established the following year, was it not?—The Commission was in 1854, and the Metropolitan Board of Works was established by the Act of 1855 coming into force, I believe, in the year 1856. I have only to point out now that the Act of Parliament was not in conformity with the recommendation of the Commission, but rather opposed to it upon a very important point.

1165. *Chairman.*] You have stated that the representation of the City of London on the Metropolitan Board of Works is now inadequate in your opinion; are you aware of the basis on which the representation was originally fixed in 1855?—I was at that time not in the service of the Corporation, and I am not aware of what took place at that time.

1166. But as it appears from the account which was prepared by the Metropolitan Board of Works, that the value of property in the City in 1856 was 1,200,000*l.*; that in the parish of St. Marylebone it was 799,000*l.*; that in the parish of St. Pancras it was 706,000*l.*; and that in the parish of St. George's, Hanover Square, it was 893,000*l.*; does it seem to you that the difference between the two members for those parishes and the three members for the City, was commensurate with, and in due proportion to, the difference of rating?—I know nothing with certainty upon the subject, but my impression is, from looking at the numbers of representatives on that Board, that it was decided without reference to the rateable value at all; that it was simply a question of population, and that the City was considered to have only the number of representatives for the population which they had under the Census of 1851.

1167. Will you allow me to call your attention to the fact, and to ask you whether you think that is accurate. The population of St. George's, Hanover Square, which has two members, was 87,771; the population of St. Pancras, which has two members also, was 198,000; and the population of the City of London, which had three members at the same time, was 111,000; do you think that you can assert in the face of those facts, that the representation was based upon population, and not upon value and population combined?—I am under the impression that the population of the City was then regarded as only a sleeping population. The question had not been raised as to its population; it was then, I think, 129,000, and not 111,000; I am speaking now of what took place in 1855; the last census would be that of 1851; but that number of 129,000 was not so large as the population of St. Pancras, and I think that the City suffered in consequence of that population being accepted as the real population of the City; I have no doubt that at the time the sleeping population only was taken into account.

1168. You do not think that the double basis of population and value was taken into account?—It may have been that rating and population were taken into account, but the question of a day census had not been mooted at the time, and it was merely the minimum or sleeping population which was taken into account, whilst the maximum population was taken into account for all the rest of the metropolis.

1169. Is there any other way of accounting for the City of London having three members on the Metropolitan Board of Works, except the fact that its rateable value was considerably in excess of the rateable value of any other districts which were created by the Metropolis Local Management Act?—I think that the relative importance of the City, as the centre of the metropolis, and its ancient character, may have been the reason why another member was conceded to it.

1170. Have you compared the representation of the districts which have two members with the representation of those which have one, so as to satisfy yourself that value was no element in representation; or does it satisfy you that it must have been an element in fixing the representation?—I have not gone very deeply into the subject as regards the first construction of the Board, but I have looked at the matter very thoroughly as regards its present position, and I think that I can answer any question upon that point.

1171. You are not aware then really how the original representation was constructed; but having regard to the present circumstances of the metropolis, you think the representation is insufficient and inadequate in some parishes, and that it is in excess in others?—It is very greatly in excess in some districts, and deficient in others.

1172. Would you propose to have the representation on the double basis of population and value, or upon either basis exclusively?—I think, for fiscal purposes, rateable value ought certainly to be taken into account, or else injustice may be wrought in levying taxation.

1173. Mr. *Tite.*] What would that give?—That would give 5½ representatives (going into fractions) at the present time to the City of London. I am not recommending that there should be an increase of numbers, as I believe that there is a great difference of opinion upon that point.

1174. You have stated that you were not in the Corporation at the time when this Bill was originally

B. Scott, Esq., 1 April 1867.

originally passed; but as a man of very extensive reading, and having turned your attention very much to the matter as a matter of history, do you know what occurred at all?—Only very generally. I was very much employed at the time in commercial matters, and my attention was not very much drawn at the time to it. I have only a general knowledge of what took place.

1175. It was referred to a Select Committee, was it not?—I believe it was.

1176. Was it very much discussed?—I believe so.

1177. Was it opposed by the City?—I think that it was not opposed by the City. The impression in the City, as I gather from conversation with those members who were then active members of the Corporation, was, that it was not then proposed to proceed further than the main drainage of the metropolis, and that it was a very fair allocation of members to the City for the purpose of driving a main intercepting sewer through the City; because the City's extent is not geographically large. That is the impression which prevailed among the Corporation in the year 1855. They did not know that the Board was likely to grow into municipal importance, and to have so such powers conferred upon it as it now enjoys.

1178. Are you aware that the Building Act was placed under the care of the Metropolitan Board of Works in the same year?—It was.

1179. And was it taken out of the hands of the magistrates in the counties, and of the Corporation also?—It was.

1180. What is the area of the City of London?—I think it is between 600 and 700 acres.

1181. Do you know the extent of the metropolitan area beyond the City?—Between 400 and 500 square miles.

1182. Do you think, then, as your own opinion, that if the Metropolitan Board of Works is to remain as a Board with 45 members, it would be reasonable to have seven members to represent the City of London?—I am quite sure that it would be inadequate if they had not a larger share of representation than they have at present, and that they ought to have something like six or seven members at the Board.

1183. All acting for the City?—Quite so.

1184. In a Board of 45?—Yes; six members out of a Board of 45.

1185. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Do you think they would be more listened to if they had six members upon the Board than now that they have only three?—I think that they would be much more influential on a division. It depends very much upon their character how much they were listened to, but they would not be outvoted by districts of very much less rental as they are at the present time.

1186. But if the three members whom you now send are really men of a very influential position, do you think that it would be necessary to augment their number?—I am quite sure of it, and the opinion of the Corporation, which I am expressing, is, that they are most inadequately represented, and that, in common fairness, they should have double as many members.

1187. As regards representation, do you think that rateable value or population should be represented?—I think that both should be taken into account in a fiscal Board, and that the number which I have given is the fair proportionate number for the City, as ascertained by taking both into account.

1188. Is your table founded upon taking both into account?—It is.

1189. Mr. *Tite.*] Only taking the day returns of the population instead of the night returns?—Taking the day returns, not taking the fluctuating population, but the 283,000 people who are found to be carrying on business in the City.

1190. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Do you think that no central authority, such as the Metropolitan Board of Works, would ever be able to effect improvements in the City, such as the Corporation themselves would be able to effect?—I am quite sure that the local representatives would know better how to carry on those improvements and what improvements were most needed, than a Board sitting at Spring Gardens.

1191. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] I believe that you are elected by the livery of London in the same way as the Lord Mayor and sheriffs, and your election is annual, and takes place in the Guildhall?—Yes.

1192. And the Chamberlain has always been appointed, has he not?—Since the Act of Geo. I. Before that the citizens in Common Hall elected him, and not the livery.

1193. Do you mean the freemen?—The freemen; they were considered a body who were too numerous, and the meeting in Common Hall on that day was considered too much of a mob, so that Parliament passed an Act limiting it to those who were the most distinguished men of the City companies; the livery, in fact.

1194. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] So that the Corporation proper have no power whatever over your appointment, and it is the livery companies who elect you annually on Midsummer day?—That is the case.

1195. With respect to the Building Act transferring all the power of the magistracy to the Metropolitan Board of Works, are you aware that the power of the magistrates to deal with cases under the Building Act has been increased by the Act which handed some portion of the powers over to the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I am not practically acquainted with that part of the subject; that does not come within my department.

1196. Are you aware that the referees were abolished, and that the Metropolitan Board of Works have the appointment of the district surveyors vested in their hands; but that the magistrates have the dealing with infractions of that Act now which were formerly in the hands of the referees?—I believe that that is so; but officially, I am not very well acquainted with that part of the subject.

1197. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] The Committee were referred to you by Mr. Medwin with regard to donors of money specially for entertainments; can you give them any information upon that point?—I am not aware of any trust or specific donations for that purpose to the corporate funds; there are several such connected with the livery companies, but the documents of the Corporation are so voluminous that nobody is acquainted with one-tenth part of them; I have not met with anything of the kind.

1198. But apart from the companies, with regard to the Corporation you know nothing of the kind?—No; the Corporation have always claimed, from the earliest period, the right of dealing with their own estate for such purposes as they think fit; and they still think, from motives of economy, that they should encourage

the attendance of members of committees. I do not think that it is defensible on any other ground, but upon that ground I am quite certain that we can find no more economical mode of getting people together for those purposes.

1199. Have you great difficulty in getting people together?—Yes, and the difficulty is increasing in the City, because the banks and public offices will give their guinea or two guineas to gentlemen; and I am quite certain that it is an economical administration of the funds, and prevents mal-appropriation, which would necessarily follow upon an insufficient attendance upon the committees.

1200. And I suppose that to an unpaid central body the same difficulty would apply?—The same difficulty would apply, I have no doubt; it was considered by Parliament, with reference to the Conservancy Board, last Session or the Session before, and an Act was passed authorising the payment of the members. It was ascertained, by reference to the number of attendances on the City committees, within my recollection, that the entertainments of the committees costs one-third of the sum which would be expended if 10*s.* was allowed as a remuneration to members for each attendance at the formation of a committee.

1201. How long is it since the money payments were discontinued?—It is a great many years; it is not in my recollection; I believe it is still divided in money to some extent in some committees, but they have in fact the distribution or application of the money in their own hands. The practice is, that the Court of Common Council considers the number of members and the importance of the committee, and votes annually a certain sum for it; the general sum is 300*l.* for the large committees, and that sum is handed over to the chairman, and is entirely at his disposal. It may be spent in entertainments, or divided in money payments amongst the members; but the amount for attendance is so insignificant that gentlemen feel that it would be offensive to divide it in that way, and so the chairman usually invites them to dinner, or they go up the river once in the summer, and pay the expenses out of this fund.

1202. Do you agree in the statement that since the abolitition of that money payment the attendance of bankers has fallen off very much?—I am not aware that the discontinuance of money payments has much to do with it. It is rather the system in the City of payments to gentlemen to attend public companies; merchants and bankers can always obtain two guineas if they have an hour to spare in the middle of the day, and for that, and possibly some other reasons, it is less irksome to them than coming to do City business, which detains them for three or four hours.

1203. Do you also consider, notwithstanding that the intelligence of the Corporation has materially increased during the last 30 or 40 years?—I am quite sure that there has been an improvement of late years; it is almost too much for me to speak as to what took place 30 or 40 years ago, although I have been 37 years in the Corporation; but I have noticed a considerable increase in the intelligence of the Corporation during the last 10 years, while I have been more mixed up with the Corporation; I was formerly a clerk in the office, and I was not so personally acquainted with them as I am now.

1204. *Chairman.*] Is there a Parliamentary Committee in the Corporation?—There is.

1205. Is the object of that Committee to watch Bills in Parliament?—That is so.

1206. Have they a large sum at their disposal, or an unlimited sum, or how are the funds provided; is money given to them by the Corporation out of its general funds?—If any particular Act of Parliament is referred to them to promote, or to oppose, they have the power in that Committee to draw upon the Corporation cash, unless they should be limited in any way; sometimes it is limited, and sometimes it is left unlimited.

1207. Then they may spend out of the Corporation cash, if their powers are unlimited, as much as they think necessary for the object in view?—Subject to the control of the Court of Common Council afterwards.

1208. In the accounts for 1863, I see this item: "Mr. Nelson, in respect to opposition to Police Amalgamation Bill, 1,456*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*;" do you receive a voucher for that in your office?—The bills pass before a committee, and they may either transmit the detail, or draw for it without transmitting the detail. That has no connection with the City Solicitor; he, at that time, held the office of Remembrancer *pro tempore*; the Remembrancer had resigned his office, and Mr. Nelson was acting as Remembrancer or Parliamentary agent, and that was the amount of his bill as Parliamentary agent for opposing that Bill in Parliament.

1209. It would seem that the previous item is, "Disbursement in respect to Street Regulation Bill, and by fees in respect to opposition to Police Regulation Bill;" is that merely a repayment of disbursements?—That is merely a repayment of disbursements, because both the Remembrancer and the Solicitor are placed upon salary in the Corporation.

1210. Then does the amount of those disbursements come before you as Chamberlain?—Not in full detail; it is a matter in the Solicitor's department; the committee would draw upon the Chamberlain such orders as they thought fit in reference thereto, but the whole detail would be in the Solicitor's or Remembrancer's department.

1211. And you cannot tell the Committee what those disbursements were?—Only generally; but they would be the ordinary Parliamentary expenses.

1212. Do you know whether they include sums paid to people all over the country to appeal to local Corporations to influence their members to vote in the matter?—I should think not; I never heard of anyone being employed in the country; probably the Parliamentary agents would write to Members of Parliament; that is a legitimate mode of opposition to a Bill, but I never heard of anyone being sent into the country for that purpose.

1213. Do you not know that there were agents employed in the municipal boroughs in the country to make an agitation for the municipal corporations to sympathise with the Corporation of London?—I had nothing whatever to do with that detail, but I should think certainly not; I never heard of any person being employed out of London.

1214. Mr. *Tite.*] You speak of the Parliamentary agents possibly taking a certain course; who are the Parliamentary agents of the Corporation?—The Remembrancer is always regarded as the Parliamentary agent, and the person entrusted with the opposition to Bills and the promotion of Bills.

1215. Is he empowered to employ another

B. Scott, Esq.

1 April 1867.

Parliamentary agent?—Yes, if the Corporation think that he ought to have assistance, he has authority to employ another.

1216. May he employ more than one?—There is no limit that I am not aware of; the Corporation use their own discretion as to what should be done, but his office was vacant at that time.

1217. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] The Law and Parliamentary Committee have no power to originate any Bill in Parliament, unless they be authorised by the Common Council generally to do so?—Certainly not.

1218. Neither have they any power to oppose any Bill in Parliament, unless they are specially authorised to do so, and are authorised to incur the necessary expenses?—That is so.

1219. It has been stated that the chairmen of committees have money voted to them for the expenses of the committees. Is it not often the case that the gentleman having the honour of being chairman of committees have often the honour of paying an additional sum out of their own pockets for the expenses of the committee?—It is very often the case that it costs the chairman as much to hold the office of chairman as the amount which is voted by the Corporation. Sometimes the money, or a portion of it, has been expended for a piece of plate. It is not necessarily expended in eating or drinking.

Mr. William Rendle, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Rendle.*

1220. *Chairman.*] Do you wish to add anything to the evidence which you have already given?—I think I left some portion of it incomplete, and that I should wish to complete. And there are some other portions upon which, if there had been more time, I should like to have spoken when I was examined before.

1221. What are the points which you wish to explain?—I consider that the mode of electing vestrymen in London, which is, I suppose, similar to that in my own parish, is in most respects very bad, and does not really represent the people.

1222. Do you mean throughout the metropolis?—I mean that as far as my parish is a specimen of the metropolis, that is so.

1223. Is your system one of direct ,or indirect, election?—Our election is under the Metropolis Local Management Act.

1224. What is your objection to it?—My objection to it is this, that there is not sufficient publicity, and that in comparison with another mode of election in the same parish the vestrymen are usually, practically, elected by 10, 12, or 20 people, while the guardians are usually elected by two or three thousand people in the same parish. Not one in a hundred in the parish really knows much about the vestry election.

1225. Would you prefer the system which is adopted for the election of guardians to that which is in force for the election of vestrymen?—Unquestionably; I may state that there were 3,000 answers returned out of 5,000 papers sent out for the election of guardians of the parish, and those papers were deliberately written. I myself was only elected by 10 or 12 people on the vestry, though I was elected as guardian by 1,200 people.

1226. Would you think it desirable to have one system and one election in the parish for all the local officers?—Distinctly so.

1227. And that by voting papers, as provided by the General Order of the Poor Law Board?—Yes.

1228. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you think that the present system tends to jobbing for offices?—Unquestionably; I related two cases which were very like that in my last evidence, and we have had one since.

1229. With regard to voting papers, that would be involved, would it not, in the alteration which you propose in the mode of election?—Yes. I have a specimen of our voting paper which I can put in.

1230. With regard to the election of a member for the central board, how do you think that should be conducted?—I do not think, in the main, it is the best way to send representatives from vestries as they are sent now; in one instance we did in our parish what we considered an act of favourable justice to one gentleman who had been rejected by the parish; and as the majority of the vestry thought that he ought not to have been rejected in the ordinary election by the parish, he was appointed our first representative at the upper board.

1231. Mr. *Bentinck.*] You have only one now?—We never had but one; I think that if there were voting papers it would come very much in this way, that our three districts would elect, as they do now, the members for their wards, but by voting papers; and I think that if the names of those who had consented to stand for the upper board were put in at the top of such printed list in a different type, one of them should be elected by the whole parish.

1232. *Chairman.*] Would you have a direct election, at the same time and in the same manner for the Metropolitan Board of Works, as you would for the district board?—Yes, except that the vestrymen would be elected in wards; but the representative for the upper board would be elected in *all* the wards.

1233. Mr. *Locke.*] With regard to the condition of the residences of the poorer people of the parish, do you wish to make any statement?—Yes.

1234. Do you think that the efforts from private sources are sufficient to obtain proper residences for the poorer classes?—With the exception of Mr. Alderman Waterlow's scheme, I consider them more or less a failure, and in most instances a hindrance.

1235. For what reason?—I will take Mr. Peabody's houses for instance. The fact is, those who are inhabiting Mr. Peabody's houses so far as I have seen them already, are inhabiting places at a small rent, when they must know, if they have any reason about them, that they are paying a much lower rent than the places are worth. That is the case with Miss Coutts's also. They are much better and more expensive places than are suited to the poorest people, who are really the people who need those better habitations, and therefore they prove a hindrance. Mr. Alderman Waterlow's is better, because it does not pay a sufficient dividend per cent. On a common commercial matter, the people have apparently no more than they pay for.

1236. Ha

1236. Have you any suggestion to make as to the mode in which this evil may be remedied?—I think it might be remedied by an improved Bill such as that which is before the House now, the Artisans' Dwellings Bill.

1237. Has your attention been drawn to the Labouring Classes Dwellings Act of 1866?—Yes.

1238. Have you any remarks to make with respect to that Act?—I have thought a good deal on the subject; in my parish, I think there are about 1,000 or 1,500 houses which are absolutely at this moment demoralising, and which produce a large amount of ill health. It is impossible for the people to be either healthy or moral, or anything like it in these habitations. Most of these habitations stand now upon ground upon which houses were built formerly rather wider apart, and in rather a different style. I think the ground might now be occupied by different houses, and, with proper arrangements made for health, they might be made to accommodate half as many again with perfect safety; they would be necessarily higher; it would be necessary to lay out a plot of ground of some extent, so that you should not have a narrow entrance and a narrow exit, or a narrow entrance and no exit; it would want a rather large plot fairly planned out, so that the houses and streets would admit of free ventilation, and as much air and light as could be admitted; I think that the condition of back yards in London is one of the greatest evils which we have to contend with, and these would all have to be paved. Any one going by rail through the worst parts of London will see that they are for the most part places for refuse and filth; but all this refers rather more to the proposed Artisans' Dwellings Bill than to the Labouring Classes Dwellings Act of 1866.

1239. *Chairman.*] The question is, whether you have any suggestion to make in respect to the government of the metropolis, which would alter that state of things?—I think it might be altered if the districts were wide enough; I scarcely think that the parishes are wide enough for this purpose. A question of this sort is so wide, that it should take in the whole metropolis for a representative body, and it should be dealt with, in fact, by the body which I first proposed should be elected by papers from all the parishes or districts.

1240. How would that be dealt with?—Somewhat in this way, that an officer of health, or any number of persons in the district, should present a place which is notoriously an unhealthy and a bad place; that if the landlords of those places refuse either to take them down, or to make them wholesome and fit for habitation, if this could be done effectually without taking them down, then there should be power to take them; the authority should be empowered, I would almost say obliged, rather than that those things should be allowed to go on as they do to the injury of so many, to purchase them. They should not be compelled to purchase them in a ruinous way, as is the case under the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, whereby a jury may give an excessive value for a place; but they ought to be permitted to take it, as it strikes me, upon a calculation of the rentals of many past years, upon what has been the actual value of the place (they might add some probability of a little increase of value), upon what the rates are, and upon what the rents are that a man pays or receives. All those things should be, I think, a test as to how many years' purchase should be given for the place.

1241. Mr. *Locke.*] Have you any suggestion to make with regard to vaccination; as to whether there is any failure in that in consequence of the present local government in the parishes?—I think that vaccination has entirely failed from want of proper government; I was a vaccinator originally, when it was placed under the poor law. This, I believe, effectually defeated the thing with the poorer respectable classes; in my surgery the poor honest people were mixed up with the poorer people of a very much lower class, and so and in other ways it got into bad odour; again, I was paid very much lower than I ought to have been paid, and I was myself made the judge as to the success of my own operation; it was a wrong principle altogether; I think that it ought to have been placed under a wider and more popular body altogether. I think that a vaccinator ought not to inspect and certify as to the success of his own case. The certifier should be paid, whether the case was successful or not, but the vaccinator should never be paid except his case was completely successful. No lymph should be ever used except it was certified by inspectors as being lymph of the first class and quality, and no other should be used; this cannot be done by a body, the principle of which is to stagmatise people who got relief from it. It is evidently a wrong body altogether to carry out such an Act as this. Out of 12 cases of vaccination, I believe not more than four are successful, so that we are paying at this moment a very much larger sum for unsuccessful operations than for successful ones.

1242. Does any difficulty arise in consequence of their being no unity between the vestry and the board of guardians?—I think that is one of the greatest hindrances we have to the successful carrying out of the laws of health. For instance, the largest number of cases brought under the operation of the Health Committee would be among the poorest class. They have those epidemics which we call remediable, and when the diseases become bad enough among those people, they usually spread to the other and better classes in the higher districts. We labour under this great difficulty, that we can get no intelligence from the board of guardians in a regular and systematic way, and scarcely any at all; and in the first case of typhus fever, or any similar disease, there is no harmony between the two bodies at all. This I represented as strongly as I was able before the Poor Law Board, apparently without the least effect. I mentioned in my former evidence that we, in our parish, made the attempt and failed, and, in consequence, we have had more than 2,000 cases of typhus fever, of which, if we had taken the first dozen cases and prevented the people from infecting the others, we might have prevented nine cases out of 10.

1243. *Chairman.*] Do you think that the duties required for the preservation of health are so much connected with the relief of the poor and indigent sick, that it is desirable that the administrators should be one body?—I think that one of the greatest blots is that it is not so at this moment; we have always found this to be a great hindrance.

Thursday, 4th April 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.
Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Lord John Manners.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Mill.
Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Tite.
Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. William Rendle, re-called; and further Examined.

Mr. *W. Rendle.* 4 April 1867.

1244. *Chairman.*] Do you desire to hand in papers to the Committee exemplifying the method adopted in the parish of Saint George's, Southwark, of voting for the election of guardians of the poor?—I do. (*The Witness delivered in the Papers,* vide *Appendix.*)

1245. Do you wish to explain the inconveniences arising from the want of harmonious action between the authorities in the same district?—I do; I believe that it prevents our obtaining perhaps two-thirds of the benefits which we might easily obtain if these bodies were to act in complete harmony. The instance which I mentioned before was, that the Poor-law local authorities, or their officers, give the sanitary bodies little or no information, as a rule, until too late; and there appears to be an obstinacy and a jealousy between the bodies which, I think, prevents their acting in harmony. As to jealousy between bodies, whose duty it is to act with one another for a common benefit, I know that it is not the case in my own parish only: having the honour to be a vice-president of the Metropolitan Association of Medical Officers of Health, I frequently hear of like complaints in other districts.

1246. Then do you think it desirable that there should be one local body in the district administering all the powers of local administration?—I think as much so as possible for all London, and I think that it is impossible for the Acts to be carried out with anything like success with a Poor-law administration entirely separated from other administrations more or less necessarily connected with it, or dependent upon it.

1247. Do you think that there would be any indisposition, on the part of the inhabitants, to become members of a board with such large duties, if the duties were divided amongst committees?—I think that it would draw a better class of men in. There is a bye-word, as to "parish politics," which with its associated points, effectually prevents the best men from coming in. I had a difficulty just lately in persuading a leading man to become a vestryman. I knew that he could do us great good, but he told me that his friends objected, saying, "It is not the place for you, they are always squabbling;" but at last he consented to serve.

1248. Do you think that if those bodies were charged more with the duties of the Poor Law Board it would improve their character?—I think the wider the duties the better, each acting in harmony with each other, instead of opposing each other; I believe it would be a great success.

1249. Do you think that the district with which you are connected is too small for local administration, but that it might be added to the adjoining districts?—It is not too small for certain purposes. It contains 56,000 people, but it is too small for certain other matters. For instance, half-a-dozen times representatives have been appointed by our vestry to act in concert with representatives from other vestries, with reference to questions which are beyond us, questions which in fact concern the whole metropolis.

1250. Then that would involve transferring to one board, for the whole metropolis, those powers in which you find it necessary to act in concert with other bodies?—I think that, in certain matters, it is impossible for a local body, however large that local body may be, being part of a still larger body, to act alone with advantage.

1251. What are those questions which you find it necessary to consider in common with other bodies?—I think, for instance, the condition of the streets is one, but only one, of those questions. We lay down a new paving, and directly we have laid down the new paving (it has often been complained of to myself personally by our surveyor), a company comes, and finding that our new street is much easier to be got up now than when it was concreted and old, actually take it up for the purpose of laying down their pipes. One of the most shocking instances that I ever saw was the using picks and wedges to break up that splendid new street, the Southwark-street, simply to lay down pipes which, with a little pre-management, they might have laid down together with other pipes, when the street was made. If one body possessed power over all that, they might do that which we are now attempting in the Kent-road. We have sent round to the houses there to know if the drainage is complete; we are about to have the road paved properly, and we do not desire to see it torn up again directly. We want one uniform body able to act in almost every way for the general welfare of the district.

1252. Then would you have a central body to control

control the parties who pulled up the pavement? —Certainly.

1253. Who were the parties who did so?—Those were the water companies; but the gas companies do it also. The water companies are the greatest offenders.

1254. Then would you put the gas and water companies under the control of a central body, so far as relates to the metropolis?—I would; the mischief is great to all now; they have torn up a new street which they will never be able to replace in the condition in which it was at first.

1255. Do you think that there are some defects in the Building Acts which are administered by the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Yes; I attended a deputation of the officers of health before the Metropolitan Board of Works a short time since, with a view to urge upon the Metropolitan Board of Works the introduction of certain matters which we considered to be absolutely needful for health purposes in erecting future buildings for the poor. We considered that the Act which they were about to seek, of which we had a copy, was in that respect almost entirely deficient. I will give the Committee an instance. I have built some good houses at Forest-hill, with every appliance for health. Within a stone's-throw of my houses there have been 31 houses built by a speculative builder. Those houses are of the vilest description. They are as new as mine, and they are now going to ruin; the water rises from the ground, and the houses are damp apparently to one-third of their full height; they have no ventilation underneath. Those houses are inhabited by a great number of poor people, who, I am sure, will become burdensome to the parish in which they live on account of the defects in the houses, the want of comfort, and the presence of everything which may tend to produce ill health. There is another place in my own parish, St. George's New Town, in which the streets are laid out tolerably spaciously, and which is inhabited, possibly, by a thousand people. All those houses, or most of them, were, I believe built, by builders who obtained their money from building societies; the drainage is bad from the very foundation, the water is laid on badly; the construction of the houses is pretty fair, but the materials are bad, and in every respect those houses are unwholesome, although with power under a Building Act, they might have been made completely wholesome. I think that it is even more important that Building Acts should contain most stringent regulations for health purposes for poor people, as regards drains, and so on, than as regards provisions against fire. There is one point upon which I had occasion some time since to consult Mr. Alderman Waterlow. I had to write the Health Report for the Health Department of the Social Science Association; that Report contained the following paragraph, which, with the permission of the Committee, I will read, with Mr. Alderman Waterlow's remarks upon it, as to the Act which was passed last Session for lending money for building purposes: "'The Labouring Classes Dwelling Houses Act, 1866,' intended, it was believed, to encourage the rapid and extensive erection of such dwellings as the title implies by means of Government loans, at a low rate of interest. It seems already to fail in both points. The encouragement is hampered, the rate of interest is not low. It must be altered, or it will not only not help, but it will impede *bonâ fide* legislation and action in this direction. With the present need of wholesome dwellings, nothing less than the most rapid action will meet the case. It cannot be done under this Act; for it contemplates as security only buildings yet to be completed, subscribed capital yet unpaid. One would think that the houses already built on land elsewhere, all with unexceptionable title, would secure the return of money advanced, and the power upon this security that *bonâ fide* labourers' dwellings should be erected would be absolute. It was expected that this Act would effectually aid such great and beneficial works as Alderman Waterlow's; an erected and occupied block pledged and another built; but it is not so. The Government obtains from the savings banks money from the lower workers at a very low rate of interest, 2½ per cent. It would seem but right that this money should be available for the purposes of this Act at the lowest rate of interest compatible with paying interest to depositors and cost of working, say 3 to 3½ per cent." Mr. Alderman Waterlow's letter is as follows: "Dear Sir, —The enclosed seems to me to explain very fairly the defect in the Act of Parliament. Trusting that your efforts may lead to a remedy for the evil, I remain, yours faithfully, Sydney H. Waterlow." I have before me three plates which appeared in a Government Report, in which one ridiculous effect of different bodies acting over the same ground is shown. One is a horizontal section of the Regent-circus, with all the pipes which are immediately underneath. Another is a horizontal section of Cockspur-street, with the pipes which are immediately underneath. The third is a perpendicular section of Parliament-street, in which numbers of pipes run right along the road, belonging to different bodies (*vide* Report Metropolitan Drainage, 3rd August 1857, Appendix XIII, plates 1, 2, 3). It is impossible for a road to be kept in order, or that anything like sanitary or other purposes can be carried out, with arrangements like to these.

1256. Mr. *Kekewich.*] Would you prefer one municipal body for all London, to a division of the metropolis into six or seven municipalities?—I think that six or seven municipalities would be very objectionable. I think that government by mayors and aldermen is behind the age. It does not seem to meet with people's fancy generally now.

1257. Your opinion is the same as that of other witnesses who have been before this Committee; that you would draw a great many of the better class into such a municipal body as you suggest? —I think there is no doubt of that.

1258. But are not the better class already elected to the vestries, and as members of the board of guardians, and to other offices within their district?—They are almost uniformly, as far as I have seen, in a minority; and they have to meet with a great deal of vexation in the opposition of the majority who represent poor property, and bad trades. For instance, I was told by very trustworthy persons that I was myself kept out of the vestry by an association of bone-boilers and others, because I had been rather active against them. They paid for cabs, I was told, to take voters to the poll to keep me out, and whether it was owing to their exertions or not, I was kept out for some time.

1559. What was their object in keeping you out?

Mr. *W. Rendle.*

4 April 1867.

out?—Because I was an officer of health, and I had been, in the course of my duty, continually inspecting the bone-boilers' and other like establishments before.

1260. You think that there would not be the same disposition to keep the best people out, if there was a larger body?—I think they want a very much wider and more comprehensive authority. All those matters to which I have referred should be brought into harmony one with another; and then I think you would be able to get the better class of men. The thing needs to be divested of its merely parochial character. Men are continually going out, who are good men, because they get worried and cannot get their points carried out; and they give way to those men who are of the lower class, whose interests or associations are concerned, and who are, in fact, more boisterous.

1261. Then you think they would look less to the merely local interests, and more to more general and important considerations of public advantage?—I do.

1262. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Do I clearly understand that you would have the poor law management vested in those Boards as well as every other matter?—Distinctly so.

1263. Will you state your views as to the government of the metropolis; do you think it should be governed by a large body, or by several bodies, or what way would you propose?—I think that if you could have the votes of almost every householder or a majority of householders, instead of having 9 or 10, or 12, or 20 people voting your vestry in, that is, if you could get them represented from every house, or the majority of the houses, you would of course have a more complete representation of the people. And if you could then have a superior board which should be elected by a whole parish, instead of by a vestry, the names of these being also upon the voting paper, then I think you would have a class of men who would represent the whole metropolis, men who might make the different bodies act one in harmony with the other.

1264. But you have not stated how you would divide the districts for management; do you propose that the central body should rule everything in each district?—I think that the central body should rule, in the main, everything; but that the local bodies should be very much as they are now, only they should be differently elected. The local bodies should be more of an executive character; all the petty questions should be carried out by the local body; but all the broader questions should come completely under the higher body, and the higher body should act, I think, very constantly as a board of appeal. I think if a body like this could be elected by the ratepayers of all London, always to be easily appealed to, as the representatives of the people throughout, and as a board of appeal, there would not be so much to appeal about; or, if it became needful to appeal, the decision would be more just and more respected.

1265. Then you would have local bodies, to whom should be confided all affairs connected with the district, including the poor law management, and a central body to whom those local bodies might appeal with respect to general matters; is that your view?—Yes, and it should not depend upon the local bodies to appeal; but a respectable minority, or a number of ratepayers, who felt things were going wrong, should have power to appeal to this central board.

1266. Then should the central body be composed of delegates or representatives from the local bodies, or should it be elected by the whole of the inhabitants of the metropolis?—Take my own parish as an instance. We have three wards, the members are elected in each ward to represent the ward, and together they form the vestry; but I would have the one delegate from our parish for the central body, elected by all the three wards upon the same voting paper sent round for the others; and the one who should have been found to have the majority, should be the representative for the whole parish.

1267. Would you have the members of those local boards or the chairman of those local boards paid?—I have thought sometimes that if it would be possible to do it, it would be much better for the one so representing a whole parish to be paid.

1268. The chairman and all the members of the board?—I am not positive about it, but it is a matter which I think cannot be rejected on the face of it, if it is a reasonable payment.

1269. Would you have all the members of the central board paid?—That is what I mean.

1270. Then you misunderstood my question; I asked if the chairman and other members of the local board should be paid?—Not the chairman, nor any of the members of the local board.

1271. But all the members of the central board in your view should be paid?—Certainly the chairman, and possibly the others, as the duty takes, or should take nearly all a man's time and attention.

1272. You have alluded to the difficulty of the gas-pipes and water-pipes in the streets, and also to the disturbance of the pavement in the new Southwark-street; are you not aware that, at the present moment there is a great diversity of opinion as to the advisability of putting gas-pipes in subterranean passages instead of putting gas-pipes in the earth itself?—I have heard such opinions, but, upon reviewing it, my own opinion on the matter is that the objections are either because those who object do not understand the matter, or they are interested.

1273. Are you not aware that gas companies as a body decidedly object to lay down their mains in those passages underneath the streets for fear of explosion?—I do, but I have thought that it was from fear of expense, and not from the fear of explosion; I think that the fear of explosion is positively nonsense, because I have gas pipes leading into my house and it is always in my power by the smell of gas to detect a flaw immediately; but the evil of the escape of gas into the streets, poisoning the soil, and getting into the water, is amazing. People scarcely understand the evil of it as it is now; I detect any escape at my house with a naked pipe at once, and so I or any one else would in a subterranean passage.

1274. Do you think that it would be a great improvement to have the gas and water pipes laid in those subways, although it might entail additional expense on the companies?—That is precisely my opinion.

1275. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you imagine that to have put that pipe (which is about as big as my thigh) down the whole of that great street in the subway could have cost anything like what it cost to dig up that beautiful pavement on both sides of the street for a rod wide?—Whatever it might have

have cost I cannot say, but I thought that it was one of the most barbarous things I ever saw done.

1276. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Supposing that a main should burst in one of those subways, and fill the place with gas; what way would you suggest to enable a man to get at this main?—I think that the escape would be no more there than anywhere else; and I think that twice a day there should be no difficulty in persons perambulating those subways, so as to detect anything; the inhabitants near would detect it and give information, and the subways would allow of the most free ventilation.

1277. How often would you have those local boards come before their constituents, and how often the central board?—I think that at present the putting out one-third is too small a change; I think that something is to be said for some of the old body continuing to carry the business fairly on with their old knowledge; but half of the local board and possibly of the central board should go out every year.

1278. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Out of what fund would you propose to pay the central board?—I think that that should be out of the metropolitan rates, because a central board would chiefly or only be appointed for the general advantage of the metropolis.

1279. Mr. *Alderman Lawrence.*] Does the Metropolitan Board of Works, as at present constituted, accord with your views of a central body to manage the metropolis?—Not at all; we have frequent complaints of the central board at our vestry.

1280. What do you complain of at your vestry?—We complain, for one thing, very much of the attempt a short time since to give a very large sum of money to their officers, before those works were finished which those officers were appointed to do. We thought, instead of giving them a bonus now and then, they ought to give the officers a fair salary.

1281. Mr. *Tite.*] That is a question of principle, I suppose. Do you not think it might be more economical to give a man 50 *l.* at once, than to give him a permanent salary of 25 *l.*?—I think if I were attending a family I should prefer their paying me a fair and regular sum for my services rather than a sum depending upon their caprice.

1282. But supposing you might not deserve it?—I should try to deserve it.

1283. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are there other matters in dispute between your vestry and the Metropolitan Board of Works?—There are. Another matter, one gentleman sent from our vestry (I do not say he was not fit for it) was sent on this principle, or want of principle; he was rejected in one of our districts, and was a man much respected in the parish; in consequence of that rejection he was sent as our representative to the upper board; that is an indication of the present mode not being the proper mode of election.

1284. Are those the views of the majority of your vestry?—They are, I believe, the views of the majority.

1285. Mr. *Tite.*] Why do they not relieve themselves at the triennial election?—We are only one body.

1286. You are one of three, and I suppose you are an influential body?—Our parish is St. George's, Southwark.

1287. Can you not attend to that matter yourselves, and if there is any irregularity, or anything undesirable in the management, can you not amend it yourselves?—We have so many things to reform that there are some things which we prefer giving up trying to reform, but we are continually appealing privately to the members of other vestries to join us each with one or more representatives to meet altogether for particular purposes. If we had full confidence in the upper board we should go to that board at once, instead of doing this; but we do not feel full confidence in them. I was not satisfied, when I went with a deputation of medical officers the other day, that they received our proposals as to health points in the proposed Building Acts properly, or that they acquiesced in those points which seemed to us to be of paramount importance.

1288. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Then, may we take it that the majority of your vestry are dissatisfied with the constitution and management of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I think they are, but I cannot put it so broadly as that; we most of us feel it might be very much improved.

1289. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you know anything of the Corporation of London and the management there?—I have felt dissatisfied that Southwark has been, so to speak, left out in the cold, and I have strong feelings upon that point.

1290. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Do you think a central board might be found in which your vestry would have greater confidence?—Yes; I should be very sorry to belong to any public body spending large quantities of public money for other than public purposes and business purposes; and the City of London, I believe, does a very great deal of that.

Mr. Henry De Jersey, called in; and Examined.

1291. *Chairman.*] Are you Chairman of the Commissioners of Sewers, appointed under the Commissioners of Sewers' Act for the City of London?—I am.

1292. And you have been a member of that Commission for a number of years, have you not?—For some 12 or 14 years.

1293. Will you be good enough to state how often that Commission meets for the conduct of business?—The Commission has hitherto met every week, except during an interval of about a month in the autumn for a holiday.

1294. How long does it generally sit for the conduct of business?—We meet at 12 o'clock, and we sit till two or three, or even it has been till half-past three or four, according to the amount of business which had to be dealt with, but the average would be perhaps between two and three hours.

1295. How many members of the Commission are there now?—The Commission has been very largely increased within the last year or two; the number used to be, I think, about 50 or 60, but the Corporation thought, after a considerable discussion, that it should be enlarged.

1296. To what number?—To about 100.

Mr. *H. De Jersey.*

4 April 1867.

1297. Is that the present number?—That is the present number. The object was that there should be a larger amount of representation in each locality.

1298. Are the members selected from each locality in the City?—They are selected from the different wards.

1299. How many members usually attend each meeting of the Commission now?—I should think generally from 30 to 40.

1300. Do you appoint any committees for the transaction of details of business?—We have lately altered our mode of proceeding; we always, as I said, have a weekly meeting, and we have two or three committees for the transaction of business which is referred to them from the commission; we have now lately altered our plan, and we have appointed three special committees, one called the Finance and Improvement Committee, another called the Streets Committee, and a third called the Sanitary Committee; and on each of those committees there are 12 members and a deputy chairman appointed. After a considerable degree of consideration, it was thought that a large amount of business which used to be brought before the Commission, could be better transacted by those committees; and therefore to those committees is confided that business, they reporting to the Court; that plan is now on trial, and if it is carried out in the way that we hope it will be, the Commission will not be under the necessity of meeting more than once a fortnight.

1301. How long has that arrangement been in force?—It has only just come into force.

1302. Will the committees have power to execute the duties, or merely to report upon matters?—Many things it will be competent to them to perform, but the Act of Parliament requires that other principal acts shall be done by the Commission, and therefore in the most material cases they must report to the Commission, and the Commission must say yea, or nay.

1303. Then the committee will report that certain things ought to be done, the Commission will then give its sanction, if it thinks fit, and then the committee will carry out the report in detail?—Quite so.

1304. How often do you expect that the committees will meet under this system?—They will only have regular meetings of about once a fortnight, but they will be called together whenever the chairman or deputy chairman may appoint.

1305. Will the Commission hold regular meetings once a fortnight?—On every alternate Tuesday.

1306. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Some of the committees have been in the habit of meeting every week, have they not?—There are always two or three committees meeting every week.

1307. Can you state the number of committee meetings which you have had during the last year?—Indeed I cannot, but I dare say that they would amount to upwards of 100 very probably.

1308. Can you state the number of meetings of the Commission?—The meetings of the Commission were, of course, every week, excepting in the four weeks of the holiday period.

1309. In the case of complaints of neglect of performance of any matters in the City, in what way are those complaints treated, and where are those complaints made?—With regard to neglect, for instance, as to dust or anything that comes under our surveillance, we keep a book in the office for the entries by the public of all complaints; we frequently have complaints by letters and memorials, and in every shape and form, and then they have been brought back hitherto before the Commission, but now they will be brought before the committees.

1310. You have an officer of health, have you not?—We have.

1311. What are the officers of the board?—We have an officer of health, Dr. Letheby, and we have a surveyor, a principal clerk and a subclerk, and other minor clerks; we have four inspectors of pavements, and we have now four sanitary inspectors, and various other officers. Two of the sanitary inspectors have been lately appointed in consequence of the additional labour cast upon us by the Nuisances Removal Act and the Diseases Prevention Act, and there are other minor officers.

1312. Have you anything to suggest with respect to the constitution of that board; do you consider that the constitution of that board meets the wants of the inhabitants of the City of London?—I have never seen anything to the contrary; I believe myself, that it is admirably adapted to carry out all those things which are confided to it by Acts of Parliament. I have never heard any well-founded complaints against either the powers, or the administration of the duties.

1313. You think it gives satisfaction to the citizens generally in the mode in which it performs its duties?—I think it does, and I think it ought to be considered so.

1314. *Chairman.*] Do you see any reason why it should not be directly elected by the ratepayers of the City of London?—It would not concur with my views at all.

1315. What would be the objection to the ratepayers electing the body which levies the rates upon them?—I think it would be raising an unnecessary amount of difficulty in the way of electing them, if you elected them from the ratepayers generally; it would be a very large and considerable election. If you elected them by wards there would be the same difficulty in each ward, there being a separate election; but it is so in effect, in one way. The members of the Common Council are elected in their different wards, and the Common Council elect, out of their number so elected by the different wards, some members of the body who go on the Commission, and therefore it is, in effect, much the same. I presume it is rather upon the principle of the Municipal Corporations Bill, where the members are returned to that Board, I believe, and out of that Board one is elected for a particular office, such as alderman, or something else.

1316. It is on the principle which is adopted in the parishes of the metropolis who elect the vestry, and the vestry elects the board, which performs the same duties as the Commissioners of Sewers in the City of London; is that so?—Quite so. I believe that the electors of London, those who elect the Common Council, are perfectly satisfied with the mode of election. Under the Act of Parliament the Corporation is not bound to elect members of the Common Council; they may elect persons who are not members of that body, but I have never heard stated, or expressed, any desire that persons whom I might call outsiders of the capital, should be elected instead of them. They have always been satisfied that the work has been done sufficiently well, and that the wants of the communities

communities of the different districts have been properly attended to.

1317. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] I believe to your Board was committed the carrying out of the original Smoke Nuisance Act for compelling parties to consume their own smoke, which was at first confined to the City of London?—That is so, I believe.

1318. And in consequence of the successful carrying out of that Act it was afterwards extended to the whole metropolis, and the whole country?—That I believe to be so.

1319. You have also, I believe, under your control the inspectors of meat at the various markets?—Yes, we have two inspectors of the different markets, and they report to us all cases of seizure of diseased or putrid meat. Generally speaking, when the meat is condemned where the meat is diseased, the case is taken before the magistrate by our directions, and a prosecution is issued. Sometimes we have taken them, in very bad cases, to the Old Bailey.

1320. You, I believe, have authorised your legal officer to take the necessary means to prosecute the parties sending that meat up to London from various parts of the country?—We are doing that continually. In some cases, at the sessions at the Old Bailey, persons have been fined 50*l.*, with six months' imprisonment.

1321. From the active control which you exercise over the food which is brought to market, you preserve the character of the food sold to people, and promote the health of the people materially, do you not?—There can be no doubt about it; and we prevent a very large quantity of bad meat from coming into the City. I believe that where there is not that strict surveillance in outlying districts, they reap the disadvantage of its absence.

Mr. *H. De Jersey.*

4 April 1867.

1322. Are you aware of a similar strict surveillance over the food in other parts of the metropolis as is exercised in the City?—I should not like to express an opinion about that. I believe many of the districts have officers of health, but whether they act to the extent of their ability or not, I am unable to express an opinion.

1323. *Chairman.*] If you have any short abstract of the Act, showing the organisation and duties of the Commissioners of Sewers under it, will you send the Committee a copy of it; and if not, perhaps you will direct your secretary to prepare one, and send it in as part of your evidence?—I will do so. We have very extensive powers indeed under the 57th of George 3. To show the importance of those powers, I may state that in ten years we expended 326,000*l.* in the improvements of the City.

1324. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Has the whole of that amount been paid by rates upon the inhabitants?—No; it has been first paid out of the rates, and then we have had subsidies in aid of it from the Metropolitan Board, and from the Corporation of London and others, and likewise from the sale of property; but that 326,000*l.* was actually expended in improving localities.

1325. With that short statement of the Act, will you also give the length of the streets and the mileage of the sewers under the control of the Commissioners?—I will. I beg to hand in a copy of the accounts of the Commissioners of Sewers for the year 1866.—(*The Witness handed in the same.*)

Sir JOHN THWAITES, Knight, called in; and Examined.

1326. *Chairman.*] Do you wish to give an explanation respecting matters which have been brought before the Committee?—To one or two of the matters which were raised by Mr. Corrie, I am anxious to give an answer. A good deal was made the other day of the question of renumbering houses and renaming streets. It appeared to be a very small matter indeed to occupy the attention of the Committee; but it is in fact a very important question. It is important on these grounds; that the alteration of the name of the street, or of the number of the house, alters the description of the property; that A, the freeholder, or B, the lessee, loses the description of his property by the alteration in question, and hence the importance that that duty, by whomsoever carried out, should be carried out with the greatest possible care, and that a very careful register should be kept of any and every alteration made under those powers. The Board has carried out that duty, and a question arose in the City in reference to the renumbering and renaming of a particular street, and the right of the Board to exercise those powers in the City was questioned. It was therefore mutually agreed between the parties, that a case should be framed and submitted to one of the superior courts, in order that that point might be determined. It was a point not as between the City and the Metropolitan Board of Works, but a point which would be raised by every District Board and vestry; because if that view prevailed in the City, in all probability the same view would prevail elsewhere. The Board looked upon the question with considerable anxiety, because if we are to have 30 or 40 district boards and vestries, renaming the streets and renumbering the houses, it would be a great question whether that accurate register, which is, by the Metropolis Local Management Act, made evidence in any court of law, would be kept by the several district boards and vestries; and the owner or lessee of property would have a difficulty in finding out what alteration had been made, and in securing the necessary evidence for the identification of his property. We felt it, therefore, to be our duty to see whether we had, or had not, the powers so indicated in the section of the Metropolis Local Management Act, and the Court determined that we had the power. Then another question incidental to that was raised in reference to the renumbering of Wood-street. The honourable Member for the City of London asked the Remembrancer whether it was not true that the Metropolitan Board of Works had passed an order for the renumbering of Wood-street, Cheapside, and whether they did not subsequently rescind that order, after receiving a deputation of influential parties residing in that street. Now that would lead to an inference that the Board, *ex mero motu*, had passed that order, and that after the representations of the parties they had rescinded it. That, in itself, might be probably an unobjectionable course of procedure, but it is not consistent with the facts. The first intimation which the Board had was a communication from the secretary or the clerk to the Commissioners of Sewers of the

Sir *J. Thwaites.*

Sir *J. Thwaites.*

4 April 1867.

City of London, requesting the Board to pass an order for the renumbering of Wood-street. The Board directed its officer to examine the condition of the numbering in Wood-street, and finding that the numbers were irregular, they passed an order agreeably to the request of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London. Subsequently a deputation waited upon the Commissioners of Sewers, and pointed out the inconvenience which would arise from the renumbering, and the Commissioners of Sewers then addressed a second communication to us, requesting us to rescind our order. Subsequently to that we received a deputation of the principal traders (I think 23 out of 24 in that important street), pointing out the great inconvenience which would arise if the houses were renumbered; and in the judgment of the Board sufficient evidence was laid before them, not that the state of things was altered at all, for the numbers were irregular, but that the inconvenience would be so great to commercial men who reside in that street, as to induce the Board to rescind the order. I merely state that to show that it was not the Metropolitan Board of Works who did it, but the Commissioners of Sewers, who, being locally connected with the district, should have known the condition of things, and should have known what the effect of the renumbering would be. I will hand in, for the information of the Committee, reports of the renumbering which has already been done by the Board in pursuance of those powers.

1327. Lord *John Manners.*] Before you leave that point as to the renumbering, or renaming of the streets in the City, it is your practice to be put in motion, in the first instance, by the Commissioners of Sewers, with respect to renaming or re-numbering the streets within the City?—No doubt, if we receive a communication from private individuals requesting the Board to put its power in force, we should communicate with the City Commissioners of Sewers, as we do with the district boards and vestries in other parts of the metropolis. We do not, upon the mere motion of an individual ratepayer, proceed to so serious an act as the alteration of the names of streets and the numbers of houses without hearing what the local authorities have to say; but in this case the suggestion was made by the Corporation through its Commissioner of Sewers, and not by the Board itself, or by a private individual.

1328. Are you able to say whether there are cases in which you have proceeded to re-name or number the streets in the City, against the expressed opinion of the Commissioners of Sewers?—The case which was taken to the Court of Common Pleas was clearly against the desire of the Corporation, because they contested that point.

1329. Since their decision has there been any such case?—Since that decision, I am not aware of any conflict between the two bodies in respect to this question.

1330. Do you work harmoniously in that respect?—I have heard nothing to the contrary since that.

1331. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Let me ask you this question by way of illustration: I myself have been an occupier for many years in Chancery-lane, a street which is partly in the City and partly out of the City; before very long the end of Chancery-lane will have to be widened, and probably the street will have to be re-numbered; do you not think it would be a great public inconvenience if disputes should arise between the two local authoritives as to the numbering of that street?—No doubt the greatest inconvenience would arise.

1332. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Do you think with respect to an accurate register of the change of names, or the re-numbering of streets, in the City of London, that the City of London would be as likely to keep an accurate register in their records as the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I have no doubt the City could perform that Act. The only point of difficulty that I see is in having two parties exercising the same jurisdiction, and the owners of property not knowing to whom to apply, because it would not be a question between the City and the Board of Works, but whether the Board of Works, or the several localities in the metropolis, should exercise the power.

1333. Do you not think that the Metropolitan Board of Works have rather committed an error when re-numbering the streets, in allowing only one number to a house, however large that house may be, two or three numbers having been previously on that house, so that in case of the house being again subdivided, the whole numbering of the street would be wrong?—It is a rule with us, that where there is a vacant piece of ground, or a large house with ground attached to it, to drop the numbers, with the intention of using them in case of buildings being erected on such vacant ground.

1334. But do you not think it would be more advisable if the numbers were dropped for a large house covering the space of three or four, and that no injury could arise to any one from it?—That is just what I have said.

1335. Is it your practice to drop the numbers where houses have been rebuilt covering a large space?—For a single house undoubtedly it is not our practice to leave a number.

1336. If that is so, is not that an error?—I do not think so.

1337. Difficulties have arisen in Oxford-street from the subdividing of houses, and the difficulty will again arise when those large houses fall into two or three hands. Of course there would be a difference as to the numbers then, would there not?—I do not think so.

1338. Then you would not advise, however large premises might be, that there should be more than one number to those premises?—When you speak of premises and houses, you speak of two different things. If it is simply a house, of course you would attach one number; if it is a house and extensive premises, which might ultimately be converted, of course you would drop the numbers.

1339. I mean houses and warehouses in Southwark, or in Cannon-street?—A single warehouse we should simply number in the ordinary way.

1340. Mr. *Bentinck.*] If you had a street partially in the City, I presume you would listen to any representation that the City authorities had to make upon the subject?—Undoubtedly, as in the case of Wood-street; we not only listened to, but actually carried out, that which we believed, from their local knowledge, they were able to give advice upon.

1341. Have you adopted the foreign system at all, of having the even numbers on one side, and the odd numbers on the other?—That is the rule.

1342. *Chairman.*]

1342. *Chairman.*] Is there any other question upon which you wish to give any explanation to the Committee?—Yes. The next point raised by Mr. Corrie was a statement to the effect that the Board was established for a temporary purpose, that that purpose was answered, and that the Board was floundering about for the purpose of obtaining works to sustain its existence. Now, I think my friend, the Remembrancer, must have altered his view very much from the time when he was a member of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and a candidate for the office which I have the honour to fill. He then congratulated his colleagues that at last a permanent Board had been established for the purpose of carrying out those improvements, and that by means of that Board we should clear off a great amount of arrear and neglect in this metropolis. He was then, of course, not the Remembrancer of the City of London, and had not therefore to defend the Corporation; I need but refer the Committee to the Report of the Commissioners, recommending that a Metropolitan Board of Works should be established. That report was the result of a very lengthened inquiry after all parties had been heard, both the City, and all parties out of the City. I refer to the Report of the Commissioners in the year 1854, appointed to inquire into the Corporation and government of the City of London; they recommended, for the permanent improvement of the metropolis, that a Metropolitan Board of Works should be established, for the purpose of levying rates and carrying out those improvements. They stated that they considered that the action of the Government was fitful and constantly changing by reason of the political character of the head of the Office of Works, and that the First Commissioner had no funds by which to carry out those improvements. There was a subsequent report of a Commission on the coal dues, and the application of the coal dues, and there is a paragraph in that report expressing the satisfaction of the Commissioners that the Metropolitan Board of Works was about to be established for the purpose of carrying out those improvements, and I shall presently have to show the Committee from the several Acts of Parliament under which the Board is carrying out its duties, and which will probably show better than any statement of mine the intention of Parliament, that that Board was established for a permanent purpose, that purpose being the better improvement of this metropolis. There is one other matter to which Mr. Corrie referred in stating to the Committee that the City of London were exempt from the Act of Parliament giving power to the Metropolitan Board of Works to examine meters, and to stamp those meters as being a correct measuring instrument between the consumers and the gas companies, and that the Metropolitan Board of Works objected to the separate jurisdiction of the City; I am only anxious to state the reason why the Metropolitan Board of Works objected to the jurisdiction of the City. The Committee are aware that the object of the Act was to secure a correct measuring instrument for the public, and that that should be done by an independent body. We objected to the jurisdiction of the City of London, because it was most desirable that, in carrying out this power, there should be uniformity of judgment, and one system of measurement; and our experience since the Act has come into force has confirmed the view that we then took; that it would have been very much better that the stamping of the meters should be in the hands of one body; I am not now saying that it is better in the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works than in the hands of the City of London; but I say that it would be better in the hands of the City of London than in the hands of two parties, because in that case you fail to secure that uniformity of conduct which is so essential in the stamping of weights or measures. Another point raised by Mr. Corrie was, that the City were exempt from the operation of the Board of Works with respect to main sewers within the area of the City, and that the Board had no sewers within the City, and no jurisdiction over any of the sewers within that area. Mr. Corrie must have failed to recollect that all the large sewers and all the main sewers within the City of London were, by the Metropolis Local Management Act of 1855, which was confirmed by the Amendment Act of 1862, placed under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works. There is the Fleet sewer, the Holborn branch, the Goswell-street sewer, the London, Bridge sewer, the Shoreditch branch, and the Irongate sewer, altogether measuring four miles of large trunk sewers within the City of London over which the Board has exercised jurisdiction and expended money in repairs, and I need but mention the accident which occurred near to the railway terminus in Farringdon-street, where a very large portion of that sewer was destroyed by the excavations of the railway people. The cost of reparation, which was something like 28,000 *l.*, was carried out by means of the Metropolitan Board of Works. Then it was alleged that the Commissioners of Sewers, or the Corporation of the City of London, possessed powers for improvements, which were not possessed by the Metropolitan Board of Works; and hence it was alleged that Parliament intended the City of London to carry out its own improvements, and had restricted the power of the Metropolitan Board of Works with reference to any improvements that it might desire to carry out; that is to say, that the Metropolitan Board of Works were obliged to go to Parliament for power to carry out any important improvements. That undoubtedly is correct, and I believe it is not only correct, so far as our powers are concerned, but it is a wholesome and proper rule. No public body, I apprehend, should have power to destroy men's houses, and to take away their property compulsorily, unless they have the ordinary means of appeal, such as they have under the Regulations of this House, by which notice must be published in all the papers, so that every party whose property may be affected, will have an opportunity of appealing to Parliament to make his case known and heard, and if he can urge any valid reason why an improvement should not be carried out, he has the means of doing so; we do not possess that power of taking people's houses without the consent of Parliament; and I will say further that we do not desire to possess that power, because it is a right which is held dear to Englishmen that their property shall not be touched without their having every means of making their case known in some court of appeal. But what are the facts of the case as contrasted between the Metropolitan Board and the Commissioners of Sewers? I have carefully gone through the Act of the City of London of 1848, the Commissioners of Sewers Act, and I find that the

Sir J. Thwaites. 4 April 1867.

the 153rd section of that Act is as follows: "That if any building which shall in any part thereof project beyond the regular line of the street in which the same may be situate, or beyond the front of the building, wall, or railing on either side thereof, shall at any time be taken down to be rebuilt or altered, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to require the same to be set backwards to such a line and in such a manner as the Commissioners shall direct for the improvement of such street; the Commissioners making full compensation to the owner of such building for any damage which he may sustain thereby." Now there are other sections in this Act, but those sections refer mainly to dangerous structures, and the power of the Commissioners to take down and to serve notice upon the owners, and so on; but it has no reference to important improvements as alleged by Mr. Corrie, as in contrast to the want of such powers by the Metropolitan Board of Works. I have examined the Amendment Act of 1861, and I find there no extension of the Act of 1848; I have also examined our own Acts, and I find that the 25 & 26 Vict. c. 102, which is the Amendment Act of 1862, says in section 74, "In case any building situated within any of the parishes, districts, or places comprised in the schedules of the firstly-recited Act, which shall in any part thereof project beyond the general line of the street in which the same may be situate, or beyond the front of the building, wall, or railing on either side thereof, shall at any time be taken down to an extent exceeding one-half of such building, such half to be measured in cubic feet, or shall be destroyed by fire, or other casualty, or demolished," and so on; then the Metropolitan Board may require the same to be set back; and, in substance, the same power is possessed by the Commissioners of Sewers within the City of London; therefore it is incorrect to say that the Corporation, or the Commissioners of Sewers, as its executive body, possesses powers which are not possessed by the Metropolitan Board of Works in that respect.

1343. *Chairman.*] That is in the City?—In the City.

1344. You will observe that in the evidence given by Mr. Corrie his statement was, not that the Metropolitan Board of Works have no power over the sewers in the City, but that the appeal which lies respecting sewage matters from acts in the parishes and district boards, does not lie from acts of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City?—That is another branch of Mr. Corrie's evidence, but I was substantially correct in the other point.

1345. Is his statement correct as regards the question of appeal?—As regards the powers possessed by the City, as contrasted with the powers exercised by the Board. With regard to non-appeal to the Metropolitan Board of Works, that is to say, that the City are not compelled to appeal to the Board for the purpose of obtaining its consent to the formation of sewers, while vestries and district boards are so compelled, that is perfectly consistent with the "Metropolis Local Management Act of 1855." The reason is very obvious. The City is a very small part of the metropolis; it is one square mile as compared with 117 square miles. That small area has necessarily been thoroughly drained for years, so that in fact there are no sewers to be made within the City, and nothing except such ordinary reparation of the sewers as is necessary from time to time. The City is well drained and has been so for many years, and therefore it is not necessary to have any clause that they should appeal to us for our sanction, as is necessary in other parishes, where they are laying out large districts, and must therefore have their system of sewerage in conformity with the general principle which is in operation in that district. I would also state that the City have contributed to the common fund by means of the several precepts levied on the City to the extent of 86,873 *l.*; that they have received back, as contributions towards minor improvements carried out by the Commissioners of Sewers, 39,570 *l.*; that the amount partly expended and under contract to be expended within the City within the next two years will amount to 1,143,570 *l.*; deducting the 86,873 *l.*, it will leave a balance in favour of the metropolis of 1,056,697 *l.* as expended within the area. I do not say that it is an improper expenditure, because it is necessary for the purpose of the metropolitan improvements that that expenditure should take place; but I name it to show that the Corporation are not suffering so seriously by the operation of the Metropolitan Board of Works as has been alleged generally, although the Corporation of the City of London have taken powers to charge their private funds for the execution of works which they have undertaken; so far as I have been able to ascertain, every one of those improvements, with one exception, namely, Cannon-street, has been carried out by means of the coal and wine dues, in fact, carried out by means of our funds; I wish it to be distinctly understood that they have carried out those improvements by means of a tax which has been levied over the whole of the metropolis. Then, with regard to the Cannon-street improvement, although it is stated that the Act authorises the Corporation to pledge the credit of their private estates, and so on, still at that time the 4 *d.* dues were taken as a part of the private property of the Corporation, and the 60,000 *l.* or 70,000 *l.* a year, whatever was the result of the 4 *d.* dues, was paid into the common exchequer, and out of that the several improvements have been carried out. Therefore, it would be incorrect to say that the improvement in Cannon-street was carried out by means of the private property of the Corporation, that public tax forming a part of the alleged property of the Corporation.

1346. Has your attention been directed to the statement of Mr. Corrie, that the Metropolitan Board of Works had not the same power in the City which the Corporation has under the Act of the 57th of George the 3rd, chapter 29, that is to say, Michael Angelo Taylor's Act, relating to improvements within the bills of mortality?—Those are for small improvements of a class not quite coming within our idea of metropolitan improvements. The Metropolitan Board of Works was established for the purpose of carrying out all improvements which were beyond the capacity of the locality, and which required the united energies of the metropolis, as well as its funds, to enable their being carried out, and hence the smaller matters, such as the rounding off the corners of a house, or taking a single house down and setting it back, which they would, under that Act, have the power to do, are minor improvements to which we from time to time contribute, but they are not improvements which we go to Parliament for power to carry out; that will

will be my answer to the statement which was made.

1347. The Act provides that those improvements shall be carried on by the local authorities, and be subsidised by the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Yes; it is the same as in the vestry or district board, where they are desirous of widening a street, and where they enter into a contract with the parties for 1,000 *l.*; it may be they will ask us for a contribution, and we should either give one-half, or one-third, just as the nature of the improvement might require.

1348. Is there not a provision in the Metropolis Local Management Act which extends the provisions of the Act of the 57th of George the 3rd, chapter 29, to those parishes within the metropolis, which are not included in the provisions of that Act?—Yes, they have those powers; and with regard to a good deal of the evidence laid before this Committee with reference to the vestries and district boards, I am bound to say, occupying the position I do, and having some knowledge of the character of those bodies and of the works carried out by their means, that a very great injustice has been done to them. I am by no means prepared to say that neglect has not occurred in a district here or there; but, as a whole, I am bound to say that the vestries and district boards have done good suit and service to the public. I have had taken out a list of brick and pipe sewers carried out by means of the vestries and district boards since the year 1856 up to the present year. The Committee are aware that all those sewers require the sanction of the Metropolitan Board of Works; and I have taken out, as I hope correctly, the several parishes and the extent of pipe sewers and the extent of brick sewers carried out by each parish; and I think it is but justice to the vestries and district boards that I should put that return in. (*The Witness delivered in a Paper*, vide *Appendix.*) I will not read the details to the Committee, but I will simply state that there have been carried out, by the vestries and district boards, 222 miles of brick sewers, varying, of course, in size. There have been carried out by the same bodies, 212 miles of pipe sewers, making in all 435 miles, and 2,900 feet since the year 1856. That of course is in addition to the formation of new roads, the repair of existing roads, the cleansing and lighting, and a variety of matters of that kind.

1349. Mr. *Tite.*] They attend to all sanitary matters, and they all of them have a sanitary officer, have they not?—Clearly.

1350. And in some cases two?—Yes, that is so. Then, as the question may be raised, and indeed has been raised, from time to time, as to the class of men sent to the Metropolitan Board of Works, I beg to hand in a copy of the list of the names of the members of the Board. (*The Witness delivered in a Paper*, vide *Appendix.*) Honourable Members will judge for themselves from that as to the position of the members of the Board. Something has been said as to the number of the representatives of the City of London. The Committee are aware that the original basis of representation at the Metropolitan Board of Works is the number of houses and the rateable value of those houses; and that by a certain arrangement the division gave a quotient, and that was the figure to determine the number of representatives to the Metropolitan Board. That state of things was based upon the Property Tax Returns then; but the Property Tax Returns are not reliable for a purpose of this kind, by reason of the irregularity which exists in certain districts. For example, in St. Pancras the large railway termini, where returns are made for the property tax, would altogether overbalance the ordinary property within the parish; and therefore I have had it worked out on the basis of the county rate, which is the basis of our assessment, and I would hand that in. It will show at once the position of the Corporation of the City of London as compared with other districts. (*The Witness delivered in a Paper*, vide *Appendix.*)

1351. Mr. *Tite.*] What is the effect of it?—The effect would be to give the Corporation, probably, one-half man more than they have at present, but scarcely another representative.

1352. It would not increase it by one, in your view?—I think not, according to that. Several other districts have of course increased.

1353. Lord *John Manners.*] What is the date of this calculation?—That is up to the present time; taking the present rateable property in the City on the same basis precisely as that adopted by Sir Benjamin Hall in determining the original number.

1354. *Chairman.*] Is the number of houses the number ascertained by you at the present time, or at the Census of 1861?—I think up to the present time, the number of houses in the City will remain almost stationary; the tendency is not in the direction, as the honourable Member for the City has put it, that large houses should be converted into small ones, but small ones into large ones.

1355. Lord *John Manners.*] This calculation is based, as I understand it, upon the number of houses and the value of property?—Yes, it is on precisely the same basis as that of 1855, except that I have substituted the county rate for the property-tax return.

1356. Mr. *Tite.*] And it is the rate by which we are bound to assess?—Yes, it is the basis on which we assess our rates. The broad issue has been raised that our work is done, and that we are now seeking for something to keep us in a state of existence. I would simply state that the Board is established for the purpose of carrying out large works; that the powers granted in 1855 have been increased from time to time by Parliament; that in 1858 the veto of the First Commissioner of Works on improvements exceeding 50,000 *l.*, and also on the main drainage scheme, was removed by Parliament; that in 1862 increased powers were given, and the former powers confirmed by Parliament; and that we have, acting upon those powers from time to time, made cash payments for works (I am speaking now exclusively of works) of 8,240,000 *l.*, and I fear that it is the activity of the Metropolitan Board that has somewhat stirred the jealousy of the ancient Corporation of the City of London.

1357. *Chairman.*] Can you hand in a copy of the last annual Report of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Yes.—(*The same was handed in.*)

1358. Does this Report contain a list of all the Acts of Parliament which have conferred powers upon the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I believe it does.

1359. Mr. *Tite.*] This has been returned to Parliament, has it not, in a Parliamentary Paper?—It has been made in obedience to statutory obligation upon the Board.

1360. *Chairman.*] And, under different headings, it contains a statement of all the proceedings of the

Sir *J. Thwaites.*

4 April 1867.

the Board in the execution of those Acts during the year?—It does.

1361. And the previous reports, in like manner, contain a statement of what the Metropolitan Board of Works has done from year to year under the Acts which were then in force?—That is so.

1362. Can you hand in a short summary of the powers contained in all the Acts referred to?—I can.—(*The Witness delivered in a Paper*, vide *Appendix.*)

1363. Can you inform the Committee how often the Board meets, or in what manner it meets, for the purpose of discharging all those duties?—We have one fixed Board meeting on Friday in each week. We have special Boards according to the necessity and condition of our business from time to time.

1364. And how long does the Board meeting generally last?—From twelve o'clock to four, five, or six o'clock, as it depends upon the condition of business. I frequently have 120 distinct questions to put for its approval at one sitting.

1365. Are the inhabitants and ratepayers allowed to be present at the meetings of the Board as far as the accommodation extends?—Yes, the doors are always open and reporters are present.

1366. In addition to those meetings have you committee meetings?—We have about 170 or 180 meetings in the year, in addition to the meetings of the Board.

1367. Are the committees composed of a select number of members from the Board, or are they committees of the whole Board?—In some cases there are committees of 15 for special works, and in other cases there is a committee of the whole Board.

1368. How many special committees are there, and for what purpose are the special committees appointed at the present time?—We have a committee which we are bound by the statute to appoint, viz., a committee of appeal. The committee are aware that we have a good deal of appellate jurisdiction, in respect to the streets and drainage of houses under the Metropolitan Local Management Act, where parties aggrieved by any act of a vestry or district board have a right to appeal to the Metropolitan Board of Works, for its arbitration in the matter. We have a Building Act Committee, which is a special committee of 15, a Finance Committee, which is a special committee of 15, and a Fire Brigade Committee, which is also a limited committee. The Works and General Purposes Committee is a committee of the whole Board.

1369. Mr. *Tite.*] That is an open committee, is it not?—Yes. A committee of the whole Board any member has a right to attend, and we have found, that although there are some inconveniences in a committee of the whole Board, still questions arise in all parts of the metropolis, and the representatives of each district are naturally anxious to be present in committee. It sometimes lessens the public discussion when the question is brought up for the confirmation of the Board, if all parties have had a right to attend the committees. That is the reason why, in some cases, committees of the whole Board have been adopted.

1370. *Chairman.*] Do you entrust to those committees executive duties, so that they can carry on business without reference to the Board, or do they merely report and obtain instructions from time to time?—We have power under the statute to delegate all or any of our powers to a committee, and for obvious reasons the Board has adopted that course. For example, where we are treating for property, it is of the utmost importance that that should be done in private, and not in public; the conditions of negotiation have to be prepared from time to time, and it is of the first importance that that should be a matter held within the breasts of the parties negotiating, and therefore we have clothed a committee with the power to carry out so much of the duties as regards the acquiring of property, and so on from time to time. We have power also in the case of the fire brigade, instead of discussing the question whether we should have engines or pipes of a particular size before the public, to refer it to a committee, and the committee have power, under that delegation, to carry out executively and practically all that is necessary, reporting from time to time to the public Board. I would state that the average attendance of the members of the Board, out of 45, or with myself, 46, has been 33 and a fraction, throughout the year, at the Board meetings.

1371. Is there any complaint on the part of the members of the Board of the irksome nature of the duties that they have to perform, and of the numerous attendances and otherwise that are requisite to carry on the duties of the Board?—I cannot say that there have been any such complaints. The duties are very heavy, undoubtedly, and it is surprising that men are willing to give up gratuitously to the public the time that members of our Board are giving up. Next week, for example, we shall have a Special Committee at eleven o'clock and a Works Committee at twelve o'clock, which will last to six o'clock. On Tuesday there will be a Special Committee at eleven, a Fire Brigade Committee at twelve, and another Committee of some importance after that; and sometimes on the Wednesday we are obliged to have another Committee, and a Board on the Friday. Of course that consumes a very large amount of time, but the members of our Board are generally men that have time at their disposal, and they do give a very large amount of time to the public, and that, I am bound to say, without expressing much dissatisfaction.

1372. Do they receive any remuneration for their attendance?—Nothing whatever.

1373. Does the Board spend any of its funds on entertainments of any kind?—Nothing, except that we may have a biscuit, or a glass of sherry, if we remain for a great number of hours. Members coming in at 10 in the morning, and not leaving until six, may have a cup of coffee, or a glass of sherry and a biscuit, but that is the extent of it.

1374. But it forms no item of expenditure which can be appreciated in the general expenses of the Board?—No. I have here a return showing the sums borrowed and the rate of interest paid by the late Commissioners of Sewers; and the sums borrowed, and the rate of interest paid by the Board since its establishment; and with the permission of the Committee I will hand it in. (*The Witness delivered in a Paper*, vide *Appendix.*) I would also state that the Board have not those advantages which are enjoyed by the Corporation of the City of London. We not only commenced without funds, but we commenced with a debt of half a million of money round our necks. We had the debts of the late Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers, amounting to nearly 500,000 *l.*, which we had to discharge; those commissions of sewers were consolidated in 1848.

1375. Mr.

1375. Mr. *Tite.*] And then they had one board and one chairman, in fact?—Yes.

1376. *Chairman.*] Have you considered at all what would be the most convenient mode of representing the owners of property on the Metropolitan Board?—I have turned my attention since the last time I had the honour of giving evidence before the Committee to that question, and I confess that it is beset with difficulties. To point out any distinct machinery by which that special section of the community could be represented is a very difficult matter; but I think that there is some little fallacy at the foundation of that suggestion which was made by one witness, I believe, who gave evidence before this Committee, that the owners of property should be represented. I do not see why the owners of property should not exercise the right which they have under the present Act. If they would take an interest in the election of district boards, and an interest in the election of the Metropolitan Board of Works, they might bring a considerable amount of influence to bear upon that election; and if they did so there is no doubt that it would improve the quality of the vestries, and probably improve the quality of the Metropolitan Board of Works, for aught I know. But there appears to be an assumption that the owners of property live in an atmosphere apart altogether from that of ordinary ratepayers. It is not so; they live amongst us, and they have the right of voting just the same as any occupier; and the great infirmity of the Metropolis Local Management Act is, that you do not get that class of persons to take the interest which they ought to take in this machinery, which ought to be set in motion and worked for the common good of every citizen. There is an undoubted difficulty how a distinct class of men are to be represented, and where you will draw the line; because a man who is the owner of a house bringing in 20 *l.* a-year is an owner of property, and you can scarcely draw a line to say that beyond that a man shall not be called an owner of property; nor do I think any separate machinery of election could be suggested by which you could get a representative of that class of persons.

1377. Whilst you, by the answer which you have made, have recognised the difficulty, no means of remedying it have yet occurred to yourself?—I do not see any practical means of remedying the difficulty; I can see no objection to the admission of the owners of property; on the contrary, I believe there would be a corresponding advantage if you could secure that class of persons; but I find living out of town, as I do, that parties in the district refuse to be connected with the district boards and vestries; after their day's toil in the metropolis they pass to their homes, and they are not prepared to go out and sacrifice their time for the advantage of their neighbours. That has to be remedied. It would be a great improvement to our vestries and district boards, and ultimately to the Metropolitan Board of Works, if a different spirit were to prevail.

1378. Lord *John Manners.*] The paper which you have put in with respect to the representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board of Works is based, as you have stated, upon the principle of the rateable value, and the number of inhabited houses?—It is.

1379. Have you any objection, in the event of its being thought advisable to revise the number of the members of the Metropolitan Board of Works, to adopting the principle of the rateable value only?—I am not quite prepared to answer that question. I have no objection whatever to a revision, but whether that might operate to the prejudice of the numerous population in the smaller and poorer districts, and whether it would not give a larger amount of representation to a very highly rated district, to the disadvantage of others, I am not quite prepared to say; but I have no objection *per se* to a revision, and to an increase, where an increase is shown to be warranted by the increase of population and wealth and houses, and so on; but we must take care that one district does not enjoy an advantage to the prejudice of another, as far it could be arranged. I think that there are two or three districts in that table in which the increased value of property, and the number of houses and population, would justify an increase of representatives. There would be no possible objection to that taking place from time to time. Of course all those districts will vary in the course of 8 or 10 years. Some are stationary, but others are advancing very rapidly.

Sir *J. Thwaites.* 4 April 1867.

1380. Take the case, for instance, of the City of London; the increase in the rateable value of property in the City of London is very great indeed; but we understand from your evidence, and from the testimony of other witnesses, that neither in respect of inhabited houses, nor in respect of population, is there any increase, at least, any considerable increase, in the City of London?—That is so. I think that the City of London should have some little increase, from the increased amount of rateable property. That I am quite prepared to admit; but it is a question requiring careful examination to see that you do not adopt simply the increased assessment as the basis of representation, because you may crush the smaller districts with a numerous population and smaller houses, and so on.

1381. Can you suggest any other check beyond that of inhabited houses?—You might take the inhabited houses, and the population, and the rateable value. That would be probably a fair basis for a re-distribution.

1382. With respect to the City, if the rateable value and the number of inhabited houses taken together only give, as we understand from your evidence they would give, half an additional member, if you threw in the element of population, that would make it probably only a quarter of a member, or some still smaller fraction?—I think probably that would be so; I think that the City is 68 to 45, and that would probably give one member more, worked out upon that basis. I think the night population, no doubt, is very small in the City, because property is locked up and parties leave in the night, and are counted elsewhere; but if the principle of night and day population is to prevail, then we must go into Oxford-street or Regent-street, and there we shall find an enormous day population, as compared with the night population.

1383. With respect to the representation of the City, then, on the whole, you regard that as an exceptional case; and you would rather not lay down a general rule to apply to the representation of the City?—I am not prepared to answer that question. The only exception to which the noble Lord refers is that of the increase of rateable property. Whether or not that should be the future basis, I am not prepared off-hand to answer. Of course you must have regard to other districts.

1384. *Chairman.*]

Sir *J. Thwaites.*

4 April 1867.

1384. *Chairman.*] With regard to the difference between the sleeping population and the migratory population, is it not the fact that the migratory population which comes into the City, is represented in all the districts where it dwells within the metropolis?—No doubt. Parties in St. Pancras going into the City, and being there counted on that rule, would have double representation; first in the City, and then in St. Pancras.

1385. Therefore, being represented where they sleep in the metropolis, they all have their relative interests with reference to the City of London, have they not?—No doubt.

1386. Lord *John Manners.*] Have you any suggestion to make with respect to any increased power which it might be desirable to give to the district board?—I have no suggestion to make as to that.

1387. Mr. *Mill.*] You stated, did you not, that there was considerable difficulty in inducing owners of property to take such an interest in the proceedings of the Board as to be willing to serve as members of it?—With regard to the Metropolitan Board of Works, that was not my statement.

1388. Perhaps you will be so good as to say what your statement was?—My statement had reference to the district boards and vestries.

1389. You stated, I believe, that they were not willing to become members of district boards and vestries; but do you think they would be unwilling to give votes for district boards or vestries, or for the Metropolitan Board of Works, if votes were assigned to them in their character of owners; do you think that if there were a provision that owners of property, as well as occupiers, should have votes in virtue of their property, they would be unwilling to give votes, whether by voting papers, or otherwise?—Then they would vote as residents and as owners of property also.

1390. They might be owners of property in one district, and residents in another, and in that case perhaps there would be no absurdity of their having votes for both; is there not at present a Bill before Parliament, promoted by the Board of Works, under which a metropolitan improvement rate would be raised, half of which would fall upon the owners?—That is so.

1391. Do you not think that, if a rate can be levied by the Board, a portion of which has to be paid by owners, it would be just that the owners, as such, should have a voice in a choice of the body which imposes those rates?—I have gone to the full length already of admitting that it would be a great advantage to the district, and to us, if owners would take their proper share in the government of the metropolis.

1392. Do you not think that, if rates were imposed upon them as owners, that would give them a motive to interest themselves more in local business?—Then it is a very strong argument in favour of the Bill which we have introduced, that it will create activity in a direction where it has been very sluggish.

1393. Is there any way which you could suggest by which owners of property, as such, might be represented upon the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I confess having given the subject very earnest attention, that I can point out to the Committee no machinery by which such persons can be specially represented as owners of property.

1394. Is not that a considerable objection to the present mode of choosing the Board of Works, namely, by delegation from the vestries; because if the Board of Works were chosen directly by the ratepayers, there would be no difficulty, I apprehend, in enabling the owners of property, as well as the occupiers, to give votes in the election of the Board of Works; whereas there is a difficulty, undoubtedly, in introducing a representation of the owners of property, when the members of the Board of Works are elected by the vestries, who are themselves elected by the occupiers only?—No doubt; unless the owners of property would exercise their influence, which they can exercise if they have the disposition, by electing a different class of persons from those who are at present on the vestries and district boards, which would accomplish their object indirectly, I admit.

1395. In that case, the influence which any individual's vote would have might be extremely small in proportion to the degree in which his interest as an owner might be at stake; because he might be a very large owner, and still he would only have a vote as a single occupier?—That would be so.

1396. Is any inconvenience experienced in the proceedings of the Board of Works from the insufficient number of the Board?—I think not.

1397. Do you think that there is no special reason for any increase of the number, except that which might arise from the new districts?—An increased representation of 8 or 10 members would not affect the principle which I hold to be important in an executive and deliberate body, viz., that you should not get beyond a certain number, otherwise you would not get through your business. The members of our Board, when they meet, meet for the purpose of the dispatch of business, and we have so much to attend to that we have not much time for talking.

1398. Do you think that the present number of the Board of Works, or something like it, hits the correct medium between a number which is insufficient for the business and a number which is so great as to cause a loss of time in mere discussion?—Yes; I mean that as regards the question of whether you should have five or six representatives of property, if I rightly understand the term, or owners of property, or representatives of owners of property, added to our Board, I should not have the slightest objection whatever. All we want is respectable, and intelligent, and honourable men in the discharge of their duty.

1399. Lord *John Manners.*] I believe that in your evidence of last year something was said about the disputes which arise from time to time between the Office of Woods and your Board?—That was, I think, in reference to the Thames Embankment.

1400. And, I think, also upon other cases?—It was mainly in reference to the Thames Embankment.

1401. Mr. *Tite.*] It was as to the claim of the foreshore, was it not?—Yes.

1402. *Chairman.*] And as to Park-lane also?—Yes, that is the principal point.

1403. Lord *John Manners.*] Do you think that any advantage would accrue by a representation of the Office of Woods upon the Metropolitan Board of Works?—The interest of the Office of Woods would only be touched when we are carrying

carrying out improvements, and take any part of the property under the control of that department; but there were special circumstances connected with the Thames Embankment, the foreshore, for example, for which we had to pay a very large sum; and those questions would not arise again in all probability.

1404. The Crown property is large, is it not, and spread over various parts of the metropolis?—No doubt from time to time we are touching it; we were anxious to open Hamilton-place instead of widening at great cost Park-lane. We wished to open Hamilton-place at a cost of 15,000 *l.* or 20,000 *l.*, instead of spending 110,000 *l.* on Park-lane, but the Office of Woods objected, and defended, no doubt very conscientiously, the interest of their tenants in carrying out that improvement, and we now have a Bill before Parliament for widening Park-lane itself.

1405. *Chairman.*] If the large property which is occupied by the Crown in the metropolis were rated for the purposes of the Metropolitan Board of Works, do you think that it would be reasonable then that the Crown should have the liberty of being represented on the Board by a member?—I think that if the principle were adopted, which I hope will be adopted, viz., that the Government property shall be rated for improvements, and bear one moiety of the rates for the improvement of the metropolis, then I can see no objection at all to the Government being represented.

1406. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you not think that the interest of the owners of property in a locality is more closely and more permanently connected with the interests of the locality than the interests of the mere occupiers?—No doubt they have a permanent stake, and an interest beyond that of a mere occupier who may be a yearly tenant.

1407. Is it not the case that many improvements are often desirable in a locality, the advantage of which will not be likely to be reaped within the average terms for which occupiers may hold their occupation, but which will be advantageous ultimately to the owner?—Yes.

1408. In that case is it not important that owners should be represented upon any body which has the power of making those improvements; and are not improvements very often delayed because they depend upon the occupiers, and the occupiers have not a sufficiently long interest in their occupation to render it worth their while to incur any expense for those improvements?—No doubt if you could induce that class of persons to take an active part in the local government of the metropolis, great good would result from it.

1409. Mr. *Kekewich.*] The owners and occupiers are men of equal intelligence; there is no distinction between them on that point, is there?—I can scarcely say that.

1410. Do you think that the owners are generally people of higher intelligence, and more fit to take their place in the district boards or in the Metropolitan Board of Works?—When I speak of owners, I do not speak of owners of compounded property, who are very numerous in the metropolis, and very numerously represented in our vestries and district boards, and who have taken a very active part against this improvement rate because it is likely to touch them; and they will vote against almost any improvement if it costs money, and no improvement can be carried out without incurring the opposition of parties having small property let at a very large rental, who pay the rates themselves, or compound with the parish for the payment of the rates. When I speak of owners of property, I do not speak of that class of owners, but of owners generally.

1411. But the reason why those men do not serve on district boards (and that of course operates on the Metropolitan Board of Works) is that they are generally engaged in business in the day, and that they feel a disinclination to devote their leisure hours to the business of the local boards or metropolitan boards?—There is that general disinclination, I must confess; we do not find that to be so in our Board; there, when an election takes place, there is generally an interest felt, and there is frequently a severe contest as to who shall be sent to our Board; that does not apply to the election of members of vestries and district boards.

1412. Mr. *Mill.*] The owners of compounded property, I apprehend, on the contrary very often do serve upon the vestries and district boards, do they not?—I believe that in some vestries they are very numerous.

1413. And it is understood that they are not that portion of the vestries and district boards, whose influence is exercised to the greatest public advantage?—No doubt.

1414. Mr. *Tite.*] I understand you to state that you have no objection to property, as such, substantially being represented by a new class of representatives on the Metropolitan Board of Works?—No.

1415. But you do not see your way to its being brought about conveniently; could it be brought about in your view by direct nomination from the Crown or from the magistrates, or from some body which would do justice in that particular, in a similar manner to the recent increase in the boards of guardians of the Poor Law, where, if I recollect rightly, the Board of Guardians increased by direct nomination by the Crown; in many cases the Crown has the right of interfering as in the case of the foreshore, does that seem to you an inconvenient arrangement?—It would be open to this objection: supposing the owners of property were to complain that the Metropolitan Board of Works were carrying out more improvements than in their judgment ought to be carried out, it would scarcely be an answer to those owners of property to say that they were represented; they would say, "No, we are not represented: the Crown nominates, it is true, but we have no voice." There would be a feebleness in the arrangement, and I think it would not give general satisfaction, although I have no doubt that the Crown would nominate as respectable men as would be elected by the most popular system.

1416. With regard to the increase of representation of the City of London; the City of London, as has been correctly stated, has enormously increased in value; I do not know that the houses have increased very much in number, but the value of the houses has enormously increased, to the amount of 2,100,000 *l.* as against a former rating of 1,600,000 *l.*; but if a system were to be suggested by which in a board of moderate extent, which you think a reasonable and right one in principle, six men should sit on the part of the Corporation of London, do you think that that would be just to the others?—You must have a uniform system; that is to say, you must have a basis which is common to all, and if the result of that calculation

Sir *J. Thwaites.*

4 April 1867.

on that basis would give the City six members, I should have no objection at all. The City is entitled to its rights, undoubtedly.

1417. But as the Board is at present constituted, do you think it reasonable that three members should be added to the Board, leaving everything else as it is at present?—It is far beyond its proportion.

1418. And it would be inconvenient in action, I apprehend?—Yes, no doubt.

1419. With regard to the change in the system of electing vestries and district boards, you, I think, were elected by two or three before you became Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works; do you imagine that a better class of men would be found if the elections were annual, and if it were house-to-house voting?—I think that there would be a great objection to annual elections for a Board constituted as the Metropolitan Board of Works is. It would take a member six or eight months to understand the ramifications, and get into the general working of our Board.

1420. *Chairman.*] That assumes that there would be a change at every annual election?—They would be subject to a change. If a gentleman is elected for three years, one-third of the Board going out each year, that is something to aspire to, and something worth the trouble of going through the difficulties of an election for; but if it is simply for 12 months, a party may say "No, I shall have to come up again at the end of 12 months," and then you may get an inferior class of men.

1421. Are you aware that the effect of annual elections in the City of London is to reduce the elections very much to a form?—I believe that that is the rule in the Common Council: but the Corporation do not spend money for improvements to the extent that the Metropolitan Board must do to discharge its duty under the Act.

1422. Mr. *Tite.*] It has been suggested that the members of the district boards should be annually elected, and that the members should be elected in the same way as boards of guardians, by papers gathered by the police from house to house; does that induce you to believe that there would be a better class of men in vestries and district boards, or otherwise?—The great evil is really the want of a disposition to take part in the local government of the metropolis. It is the old story of taking a horse to the water and not being able to make him drink. In any form of election you would want the favour of the parties whom you desired to secure.

1423. Is there any mode in which you think that people could be induced to come forward for election on the vestries and district boards?—I do not know; it seems to me to be a popular election.

1424. You have no suggestion to make upon that point?—I have no suggestion to make; that would be rather out of my province.

1425. In your experience, do you believe that the allegations are well founded, that, after all, the members of the vestries and district boards are not fairly representing the people by whom they are actually elected?—I am not prepared to say that the vestries and district boards are all one could desire. I think allegations have been made against the vestries and district boards which are not well founded.

1426. You have no suggestion to make, however, by which you think they might be made better, if the allegations were well founded?—I do not know any other machinery.

1427. Mr. *Bentinck.*] If the owners of property were made liable to the 2*d.* rate which is imposed, or at any rate which might be imposed upon them, their names would appear upon your rate book, would they not?—The machinery would be, that the occupier would pay a deduction the same as in the case of the property tax.

1428. But do you not think that, as you say, there would be great difficulty in the owners being represented, on account of the difficulty of finding who the owners were?—My first difficulty was, as to where you should draw a line, and whom you should call owners, because a man owning a house at a rent of 10*l.* a year is an owner.

1429. Do you think it would be impossible to frame a constituency of owners so that they might be able to nominate a representative at the Board?—I do not see any machinery, I confess, by which it could be accomplished. I see no objection to their being there, if you can get them there by any fair power.

1430. But your difficulty of course would be in the existence of various classes of owners?—Entirely. If you say the large owners of the metropolis shall have a representative, I can understand the Government nominating him.

1431. But then the difficulty that presents itself to you is owing to the existence of various classes of owners, is it not?—I see that if a party is called upon to pay any portion of taxes to be expended by a body on which he is not represented, the suggestion is how can that party be represented; if a party is residing in a district and is the owner of a house, he votes in respect of his occupation, and therefore he has no reason to complain. But how you can frame a machinery that will give to a distinct class of persons, namely, the owners of property, the means of sending representatives, I am not prepared to say, because the owners of property are a large class of persons.

1432. Mr. *Mill.*] Would not the Parliamentary Register show who are the freeholders, and who are the leaseholders, or the owners of property in a certain district, above a certain value, to which value it might perhaps be expedient to restrict the right of voting?—There would be no difficulty in ascertaining the number of freeholders, which would be very large; but the difficulty is in ascertaining the beneficial leaseholders who have great interest in metropolitan property, and adapting the machinery to give them a representative.

1433. Mr. *Bentinck.*] But if under such a system, even imperfectly representing the owners, they could return a representative, that would be better than nothing, would it not?—All I have to say is, on behalf of the Metropolitan Board, that we have not the slightest objection that owners should be represented.

1434. With reference to occupiers, should you have any objection to occupiers being represented independently of the vestry?—They are represented now, or profess to be, through the vestry.

1435. But have you any objection to occupiers being represented independently of the vestry; that is to say, that the owners should send one representative and the occupiers another?—If any change is made it should be for popular election on the old Saxon principle of direct responsibility. I do not think you would secure a better class of men than we have at the Board at

at this moment, if you adopted any other system of election.

1436. I wanted to know whether you thought there was any *primâ facie* objection to the occupiers sending a representative as well as the vestry, and whether by that means you would not have both direct representation and indirect representation?—I think all complex systems are objectionable, if they can be avoided.

1437. Supposing there was a power of nomination in some body, say in the Government, and that the Government, or any other public body, had a right of nominating a member to the Board, do you think that such a right of nomination as that would induce a superior class of men to undertake the responsibility of becoming members of the Board of Works?—When the Honourable Member asks the question, I must know the number to be nominated.

1438. I speak generally; supposing the Government had a right to place some member on the Board (of course to act with those who obtain their seats there by popular election), do you think that their being able to be nominated without having to undergo all the turmoil, inconvenience, trouble, and expense of an election, would induce men of a superior class to take their seats at the Board?—I have no doubt that it would induce men to take their seats, freed as they would be from the difficulties of election.

1439. Such a class of men as you would desire to see there?—Yes; in reference to the vestries I think, in the interest of the public, that there ought to be a right of appeal by any ratepayer or ratepayers in a district against the decision of vestries, or in case of the neglect of a vestry. I think that some difficulty has arisen in carrying out their duties under the Act, so that residents in a district have had reason to complain, and they have had no right of appeal to the Board of Works for adjusting the matter. I think the appellate jurisdiction of the Board of Works should be increased, and I believe that, if increased, it would be to the advantage of all parties.

1440. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect the question of stamping the gas meters; was it not the fact that in consequence of the county of Middlesex not carrying out that measure, it was handed over to the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I do not remember the reason why it was handed over to them, but I remember the fact that it was handed over to them.

1441. You stated that, in a similar manner to the stamping of weights and measures, it should be under one authority; are the inspectors of weights and measures in the district of the Metropolitan Board of Works under their jurisdiction?—That was not my answer; I did not say the stamping of weights and measures; I said any question involving the stamping of a weight or measure should be under one jurisdiction in order to secure uniformity.

1442. But is it the fact that the inspectors of weights and measures in the metropolitan districts are under the authority of the Metropolitan Board of Works, or are they under any one authority?—No.

1443. Whom do they act under?—I suppose under the local authorities.

1444. Do they not act in the City of London under the authority of the magistracy of the City of London, and in the various counties under the magistracy of those counties?—They are appointed by the magistrates of the county.

1445. I think you stated that the Board of Works was intended, from its commencement, to take up all the great works throughout the metropolis, and that, on account of the fitful character of the Government Board of Works, in consequence of the change of the political head of that Board, some of its duties were vested in the Metropolitan Board of Works; do you think that the Metropolitan Board of Works was established in some degree to supersede the Government Board of Works?—I neither think so, nor have I said it. I referred to a report of the Commissioners, and in that report is set out the difficulty of carrying out metropolitan improvements; it points out that those improvements, by means of the coal dues, have from time to time been carried out by the First Commissioner of Works; but that, having regard to the political changes which take place, and also having regard to the fact that beyond the coal dues there were no funds to enable him to carry out metropolitan improvements, it was therefore necessary that a Metropolitan Board should be established.

1446. Did I understand you correctly to state that you thought the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London possessed powers which were too ample, or more than they ought to have, for acquiring property for improvements, and that some of those powers ought to be taken away from them?—No; after the statements made before this Committee by Mr. Haywood and other parties, that you have powers to take down one side of a street without asking leave or license of anybody, I confess that I was surprised when I referred to those Acts to find that you have no such power.

1447. Then, do I understand you correctly to state that no public authority should have the power to take away a man's house without an Act of Parliament?—I have not stated so; I made a distinction between those small local improvements such as you would carry out under Michael Angelo Taylor's Act, or under that section of the Sewers Act, for taking down a house if it is burned or for setting it back, and the large metropolitan improvements for which you must necessarily obtain Parliamentary powers; and I stated that we not only do not possess it, but that we have no desire to possess it, and that the owners of property, therefore, have a right, and ought to have the right, of appealing to Parliament if they please.

1448. Then, do you object to the Commissioners of Sewers having authority to take down a man's house without an Act of Parliament, if it is necessary for a public improvement in the City of London?—The limited powers which they possess now I am by no means desirous of diminishing, because the Metropolitan Board of Works possess the same power; I do not think they possess any power beyond what they ought to have for the purpose of carrying out that class of improvements.

1449. Am I to understand that the Metropolitan Board of Works possess any power under the 57th of George 3rd?—No, but they possess it under the 25 & 26 Vict.

1450. Are those two Acts identical?—The clauses which I have read are almost identical in the wording.

1451. Does not your Act in the case of a house being burnt down, or falling down, or in case of the

Sir *J. Thwaites.*

4 April 1867.

the site being in any way as it were in a state of confusion, give an opportunity and authority then to take possession of that property and to alter the line of the street; but in the other case, does it not give the City of London power, if they think it necessary for improvements, to take a house down, even if it has not been burnt down, or fallen down, or in any way altered?—I have failed to find any such power either in the Act of 1848 or in the Act of 1851. The distinction between the powers of the Commissioners of Sewers and the Metropolitan Board of Works is this: the Metropolitan Board of Works' powers are confined to buildings destroyed by fire or otherwise; and I believe that the Commissioners of Sewers have the power to deal with dangerous structures, which, in the other parts of the metropolis, are in the hands of the Commissioners of Police.

1452. I will give you an example; are you not aware that the City of London have power to take any house in Newgate-street, for instance, which projects beyond the line of the present improvement, by compulsory powers under their Act, even if none of the events had occurred to which you have alluded?—I do not know where the powers are; I shall be glad if the honourable Member will refer me to the section.

1453. If they have the power of taking down a house in Newgate-street where business is now carried on, and of taking it under compulsory powers without the consent of the owner, in order to make an improvement, that is a power which is not possessed by the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Clearly.

1454. Perhaps you are not aware that that power is given under the 57th of George the 3rd, in the 82nd section, "And be it further enacted that if any body or bodies, politic, corporate, or collegiate, or any other person or persons seized or possessed of or interested in any such houses, buildings, lands, tenements or hereditaments as aforesaid, shall refuse to treat or agree, or shall not agree, or by reason of absence or disability cannot agree with the said Commissioners or Trustees, or other persons having the control of the pavements of any streets or public places in any parochial or other district within the jurisdiction of this Act, or with any person or persons authorised by them for the sale and conveyance of their respective estates and interests therein, or cannot be found or known, or shall not produce and evince a clear title to the premises they are in possession of, or to the interest they claim therein, to the satisfaction of the said Commissioners or Trustees or other persons as aforesaid, or of the person or persons so authorised by them, then and in every such case it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners or Trustees or other persons as aforesaid, and they are hereby required to issue a warrant or warrants, precept or precepts directed to the sheriff or sheriffs, or bailiff or other proper officer of the city, borough or county wherein the premises shall respectively lie or be," and so on, so as to obtain possession of the property?—The Act of the 57th of George the 3rd is incorporated in our Act.

1455. If the Act of the 57th of George the 3rd is incorporated in your Act, you possess the same power?—The same power; but our improvements being large improvements, we generally go to Parliament for powers.

1456. I think that you stated that the list of improvements which the Remembrancer had put in, or was about to put in, were improvements which had been carried out mainly by the funds of your Board?—When I say "our" funds I mean metropolitan funds.

1457. Then pray what am I to understand by "our" funds?—I mean metropolitan funds; I say metropolitan funds of course as representing the metropolis. The City is represented at our Board; if I say "our" funds, I mean a fund which ought to be under metropolitan control, the City as part of the metropolis of course contributing its share.

1458. Can you tell me when this fund became the property of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—It became their property by special enactment, charged of course with particular improvements; but it is not a question of whether it became the property of the Metropolitan Board, it is a question of public taxation as contrasted with the private property of the Corporation.

1459. Then am I to understand you to say that the Government Board of Works carried out their various improvements in the metropolis, such as New Oxford-street, Commercial-street, Whitechapel, the new street from Leicester-square to Piccadilly, and the one from Leicester-square to Long Acre, and Endell-street, by your funds?—By our funds, meaning the metropolitan funds.

1460. Not the funds of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—They are the result of metropolitan taxation.

1461. But not the funds of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I assume that the Metropolitan Board of Works represents the metropolis, including the City of London, and therefore I say "our funds."

1462. But were not many of those improvements carried out long before the Metropolitan Board of Works was thought of?—Yes, of course.

1463. Then whose funds were they then; how will the districts within a 20-mile circle of the metropolis agree to that term as to their being metropolitan funds?—I suppose that they would say "our funds."

1464. Do they say so, or did they ever say so?—Probably they would say "our funds," and it would be my business to show you that they were metropolitan funds.

1465. Would they say that they were metropolitan funds?—I do not know.

1466. Are not the Thames Embankment and the new street from Blackfriars Bridge to the Mansion House the only works placed under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works to which the wine and coal duties have been applied?—A part of the expense of the Southwark-street is paid by means of those duties.

1467. As we are on the Thames Embankment, is it not a fact that in consequense of the onerous terms imposed upon contractors for that Embankment, the Board have failed to get substantial contractors to carry out those works?—I do not know what you mean by "onerous terms."

1468. I mean onerous clauses in the contract for carrying out the works?—There was no difficulty in getting contractors. A large number competed in every contract.

1469. Is it not the fact that both the contractors have not been able to carry on those works satisfactorily to the Board of Works, or to the public?—One is carrying them out very satisfactorily and the other is in the course of finishing.

1470. I

1470. Is it being finished by the same contractor who took the works?—By the same contractor assisted by others. The contract still remains in force.

1471. Is the contract transferred to other parties then?—No.

1472. Has not the contractor become bankrupt?—No.

1473. Has he stopped payment?—I believe that there was some compromise or arrangement with his creditors, but he has obtained the assistance of other parties and is carrying on his contract.

1474. Will it be carried out for the original sum, and will the Board of Works suffer no loss in consequence of his having taken that contract?—It is impossible to say what the result of a large contract will be.

1475. Was there not another party who would have taken that contract at a lesser sum, an honest and substantial man, who would not agree to the terms which it was desired to impose upon him by the engineer of the Board?—Not by the engineer of the Board. The specification is the act of the Board; but we invite public tenders, and I need scarcely say to the Honourable Member for the City of London that if a public body invite tenders for a certain work, and A. chooses to send in a tender which is not on the basis of the specification, no public board can accept his tender.

1476. Mr. *Tite.*] More particularly if he changed his mind afterwards?—There is something like good faith in a public body, I should imagine.

1477. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You have stated that the activity of the Metropolitan Board of Works has in your opinion stirred the jealousy of the ancient City of London; I wish to know whether that activity has been evinced in making the new street from Blackfriars Bridge to the Mansion House?—I think it has; I have no doubt that that is a sore point with the City, and I am rather glad that the Honourable Member has asked me the question.

1478. When was the Act passed for making that street?—In the autumn of 1863.

1479. In the Session of 1863?—About August or September.

1480. Is there any portion of that street open to the public?—No.

1481. Has any progress been made in that portion between the Mansion House and Cannon-street?—Yes.

1482. Is there any apparent progress to the public?—The condition of the street is as follows: there were of freehold and leasehold, and business claims, 367; out of those 367, there have been settled up to this date 294; there are three freehold claims unsettled, and four churchyards; there are ordered for juries, 11; for reference, one; referred to myself, three; under negociation for settlement, 21; and before the Committee now for the same purpose, 11; so that there are but 13 cases out of the 367 which are not settled. The sale of 120 of those houses will take place on the 11th of this month, and they will be demolished in the course of three weeks after that date.

1483. Up to the present time then, there is no appearance to the public, from any destruction of houses, that any progress has been made?—The Board of course looked at it as business men. We have obtained the freehold and the leasehold interests, and have let the property, subject to a short notice, until we are ready to pull down a large number of houses; and probably, we are realising between 20,000*l.* and 30,000*l.* a year, instead of pulling down the houses in fragments, without any benefit to the public at all. We therefore thought it better to let those houses, subject to a month's notice, until we were prepared to pull down a large batch, and to make the opening either from Blackfriars Bridge to Cannon-street, or from Cannon-street to the Mansion House; and I think the Board have exercised a wise discretion in doing as they have done, instead of making a ragged appearance by pulling down a few houses, losing the rent, and generally giving the public no advantage; because, until the whole road is formed no public advantage can be gained from the making of that street. I would state one difficulty which has beset the Board in reference to that street, viz., in taking a part of the Government property, which was previously occupied by the Government for the storing of wills, and other matters of that kind. We were obliged when the Act was obtained to give them notice, and within 18 months after that notice to re-erect some place in substitution for that which is destroyed. Of course there was some considerable delay in negociating with the Government. The Government objected to send it to a reference, and we have paid a very high price for that property. The 18 months is expiring, and as soon as that has expired, we shall have possession of the whole street. We shall not wait till that small matter is in our hands, but we shall commence the formation of the street on either side, and then when we get possession of that part, we shall simply finish it, and throw the street open to the public.

1484. Then, when you begin to pull down the houses between Cannon-street and Blackfriars Bridge, and make this opening all at once, will you be able to open the street for public traffic until the railway have made their works up the street?—That is a difficulty which has arisen subsequently to the Board obtaining its powers. Parliament has granted to the Metropolitan District Railway Company power to construct their line along the embankment, and following the line of our new street up towards Cannon-street, and I regret to say that we are delayed, and shall be delayed, by the action of that railway company; and it is a question for us now to consider whether it is not our duty to go on with that street without further delay from the railway company.

1485. But this obstruction would not occur in that portion of the street between the Mansion-house and Cannon-street, and if that were open and completed a great relief would be given to the public, as far as the Poultry and Cheapside are concerned?—Yes, and that we are pushing on as fast as possible.

1486. Are there any houses in that portion of the street which will be ready for sale on the 11th of April?—Not for sale on the 11th of April, but we shall have a batch ready very shortly.

1487. In that case there is no Government property requiring 18 months' notice, is there?—No, but towards the Mansion House it is very expensive property, and, of course, it is important that we should obtain it at the very smallest cost.

1488. Do you think that by waiting all this time and opening up this portion of the street all at once, you will succeed in getting as high a rent for the ground as you would have done if you had been prepared to let to the public 12 months since?—

Sir J. Thwaites.

4 April 1867.

since?—But no public body would have been prepared 12 months since to have let it.

1489. You assume that?—I assume it, and I assume it gravely.

1490. But if you had been prepared to let that ground to the public 12 months since, would it not have realised a much larger sum than it will when you open it now?—I am not quite sure what the result would be; there is some little depression now, and there is not that fever for large plots of land which there was some 18 months ago, but we have every reason to believe that we shall realise very high prices indeed for that land.

1491. Are you not aware that rents have depreciated enormously in that district within the last 12 months?—We have very conflicting evidence on the subject, and attempts are made to show that the value of the property in that neighbourhood is increasing instead of decreasing, but I have no doubt that, as a rule, the price is decreasing.

1492. Supposing a railway company had got their Act passed in 1863, would they not have got their railway made and constructed from the Mansion House to Blackfriars Bridge before this time?—It depends upon the character of the company and of the directors, and upon the funds which they have, and the price which they pay. I venture to make this answer, that we purchase our property on an average at 25 or 30 per cent. cheaper than the railway companies do, acting on the principle which the Honourable Member has suggested.

1493. But do you think that it is a gain to the public to wait for the opening of a street in order to buy property 10 or 15 per cent cheaper, when every hour it is of consequence to have the traffic facilitated?—We must exercise due discretion in purchasing property, and not turn parties out at a moment's notice, and let the claim be aggravated before a jury, and so increase the amount of compensation; we have had some experience in that matter.

1494. Can you estimate a time when it is probable that the street will be opened for public traffic from the Mansion House to Blackfriars Bridge?—That depends somewhat upon the progress which the railway people make. We are now in negociation with the railway company; I should not like to pledge the Board or the company at present.

1495. Do you think that it is likely to be opened in the next two years?—I cannot answer that question at present.

1496. In three years?—If I cannot answer for two years, I cannot answer for three.

1497. You would not say that the public might depend upon having it open within four years from the present time?—In very much less time than that.

1498. In three years?—In less time than that, in less than two if that will be more satisfactory.

1499. With respect to various matters entrusted to the Board, what are your views with respect to what the Board of Works should undertake as being matters proper for that Board irrespective of actual works?—All improvements in the metropolis, including the City of London.

1500. But with regard to other matters, such as the control of the streets and paving, and gas, do you think the Board of Works should have such matters under their control?—I do not know whether the Honourable Member's question applies to prospective works, or to our present powers. Our duty under our present powers is to make all improvements, to widen streets, to form new ones, to see to the general drainage of the metropolis, and to regulate the works of the district boards and vestries, as to the drainage and so on (you have no drainage in the City, and therefore it is not necessary to regulate it), to carry out the Building Act and manage the fire brigade, and every other power which Parliament has given to the Board since its formation.

1501. Do you think that the management of the poor should be confided to that Board?—No.

1502. The police?—I think not.

1503. The gaols or lunatic asylums?—Not at present, I think.

1504. You think that the time might arrive when those matters could safely be handed to the Board?—I do not know what the condition of the future government of the metropolis may be; that will entirely depend upon the form of government.

1505. Do you think that the markets throughout the metropolis ought to be placed under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I think that there are no markets, except in the City, besides proprietary markets.

1506. There is the Cattle Market at Holloway, for instance?—I believe that the Corporation would claim that as their property.

1507. There are Covent Garden and other markets?—Those are private property.

1508. Are they under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—They are under private control now, under special Acts of Parliament.

1509. But have you any further control?—So far as the general police is concerned, it is of course under the Commissioner.

1510. Do you think that the whole of the bridges of the metropolis ought to be placed under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—That is a large question. There are two or three bridges which the City of London claim as their bridges; London Bridge; and they are now purchasing Southwark Bridge; and Blackfriars Bridge they are re-building.

1511. My question was, whether you think that the Metropolitan Board of Works ought to have the bridges placed under their control?—We do not at all desire to have the bridges placed under our control, but I have no doubt that we should be able to manage them as well as the Corporation, if that were the case. I think that toll-bridges are bad in principle, especially in densely populated parts, such as about Waterloo Bridge. We are desirous that that should be purchased, and the only purchasers would be the representatives of the metropolis, and the only representatives of the metropolis would be the Metropolitan Board of Works, including the City.

1512. Then it would be advisable, in your opinion, that those tolls should be taken off, and the means found of raising the money and keeping the bridges up under the Metropolitan Board of Works?—Clearly.

1513. With respect to the river; it washes the embankment; would it not be advisable that the Metropolitan Board of Works should have some control over the river?—It would be advisable that the Metropolitan Board of Works should have some representative at the Conservancy Board undoubtedly.

1514. How many representatives do you think that they ought to have at that Board?—A reasonable number; three or four probably.

1515. Fou

1515. Four or five?—Two or three might probably be sufficient; all parties are represented there except the metropolitan ratepayers.

1516. Should they be there in the same way as any other representatives, and have the same control over the river from its mouth up to Oxford, or somewhere near there, as I believe is the case now?—Yes, certainly.

1517. Do you think that the Metropolitan Board of Works, having some control over the river, should also have some control over the sanitary arrangements of the shipping in the river, and the appointment of sanitary officers to look after the shipping, to see that proper sanitary arrangements are carried out?—I assume, of course, that the principle is sound that you should have a representative body, and that the body should have control over the river up to Oxford, which you referred to; if that be so, I allege that the Metropolitan Board of Works should have some representative upon that Board to represent the metropolis; you have six or seven representatives for the City of London with a small area, occupying a very small part of the foreshore; you have representatives of the trading community, the wharfingers and steamboat proprietors. The very parties who should be controlled are made the controllers; but you ignore the 3,000,000 of inhabitants in the metropolis, and they have no representatives; hence the application of the Metropolitan Board of Works that they should have representatives upon the Board.

1518. With respect to the River Lea navigation which runs into the Thames, you are aware that the Corporation have a certain number of representatives upon that Board; do you think that the Conservancy ought to have a certain number of representatives on the Board of Trustees of the River Lea Navigation?—They ought to have such special control as to enable them to protect those over whom they have jurisdiction, and if any company is pouring in filth, and polluting the river, the Thames Conservancy Board should have the control of it.

1519. The Thames Conservancy Board have not a control over the river Lea, but the Corporation have representatives on the Board of Trustees who have the control of that river to Hertford?—That is so no doubt.

1520. *Chairman.*] Are you aware that the case of the Corporation having anything to do with the river Lea is merely an accidental reminiscence, or rather circumstance, arising from the fact of there having been conservators of the Thames in former times, and that they have so become connected with the river Lea, and that it was by an omission in the Act regulating that conservancy that they were allowed to continue?—I am not aware of the history.

1521. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you aware that the river Lea navigation was in great difficulties at one time, and that the Corporation advanced a sum of money to get them out of the difficulties; and that then a certain number of the Corporation were placed upon the Board of Trustees, who are bound to hold one meeting annually in the City of London?—I am not aware of the history.

1522. With regard to the river Lea, I believe that the Metropolitan Board of Works have so far to do with the river Lea, that in case of an overflow of their main drainage it runs into the river Lea, above the lock on that river?—No doubt.

1523. So that instead of the river Lea polluting the Thames, the Metropolitan Board of Works, by means of the main drainage, on certain occasions, pollute the river Lea?—I am sorry that the honourable Member should put that question, because he was a member of the Metropolian Board of Works at the time when this arrangement was carried out, and therefore he should know that the Metropolitan Board of Works have intercepted the sewage which flowed through Old Hackney brook and polluted the river Lea, and that it is now carried over the river Lea down to Barking; and that the only matter which is discharged into the river Lea is storm water in the case of serious floods; and therefore they have in fact purified the river Lea to an enormous extent.

1524. But any overflow of the great main drainage system flows into the river Lea above a tidal lock, does it not?—We have had no flood up to this time which has acted in discharging any flood-water into the Lea.

1525. I do not know what is meant by that report that it has acted most satisfactorily?—If the water were to rise to a sufficient height, it would act satisfactorily, and so it has hitherto; it depends upon the amount of flood.

1526. Do you think that it is satisfactory in the main drainage scheme that any overflow that takes place should flow into a river above a tidal lock?—The honourable Member must be aware that it is impossible to form tunnels to carry off those exceptional rainfalls; you may have an amount of rain which a 30-feet tunnel would not carry off; you must have a storm overflow.

1527. With respect to the attendance at the Board, can you state what the average attendance at committees is?—Eight or nine, I should think, on the small committees, and probably 20 or 23 on the large committees.

1528. Is the average attendance on committees for general management, eight or nine?—On special committees; I am speaking, of course, now from memory.

1529. The honourable Chairman asked you a question with respect to any refreshments at the Board, and whether you had any funds similar to those of the Corporation for eating and drinking; I believe that your Board have not funds specially for that purpose, and do not expend money; but I must ask who found the expense of the entertainment at the opening of the sewers when the Prince of Wales was present?—The Board.

1530. And you do not consider that the Board went beyond its powers, or in any way did that which was derogatory to its dignity, when, in opening the main drainage works, they gave an entertainment, and invited the Prince of Wales and other Members of the Royal Family, and distinguished men, and Members of both Houses of Parliament?—Not the slightest.

1531. And if similar occasions should arise, no doubt the Board would act in a similar manner?—No doubt.

1532. *Chairman.*] Generally, do you think it desirable that where any duties have to be performed in relation to the whole metropolis, such as protecting the interests of the inhabitants with reference to gas and water companies and railway companies, those duties should be performed by the Metropolitan Board of Works?—No doubt they should be performed by a central body, and what is really required in the metropolis is a strong executive which shall have power to carry out improvements in a metropolitan spirit.

Sir J. *Thwaites.*

4 April 1867.

1533. And that it should be sufficiently strong to enable it, if I may say so, to carry on any contention that the interests of the inhabitants require against powerful and influential companies?—No doubt railway companies and other parties are interfering with the interests of the ratepayers, and the rights of the ratepayers in the metropolis should be protected.

1534. Do you think that it is equally desirable that they should interfere for the purpose of seeing that the affairs of those companies, or rather the acts of those companies, are carried on upon some uniform plan for the general interest, taking them in a detached and disconnected manner?—It would be most desirable.

1535. Do you think that it would be desirable that the Metropolitan Board of Works, or some central Board, should be intrusted with authority to deal with certain emergencies which arise, and which affect the whole metropolis; such as the streets and leading thoroughfares being suddenly obstructed by a great fall of snow?—No doubt there ought to be somebody to deal with a case of that kind.

1536. Do you think that in a case of that kind, it would be for the interest of the inhabitants that the main thoroughfares throughout the metropolis should be cleared on some system, by the united efforts which may be available in the metropolis rather than by detached efforts in separate districts?—There should be a central control; but I am not prepared to say what machinery would be best for clearing the streets of snow; that is a matter of detail.

1537. But do you not think it important that there should be a central control to insure certain streets in the metropolis being cleared in the first instance?—No doubt.

1538. Do you think that the same thing would apply to any sort of epidemic, or endemic disease breaking out, in regard to which it might be necessary to make large and comprehensive arrangements?—That would be useful, undoubtedly.

1539. Your view is generally that where matters arise which require to be dealt with on general principles for the whole of the inhabitants, power for that purpose should be given to some central authority?—No doubt. I may say that that power has been given in the case of the cattle plague.

1540. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Can you explain why the Charter House, the Inner Temple, the Middle Temple, Gray's Inn, and other places, were excepted from the rating power of the Board at its commencement, and have been so ever since?—I suppose the honourable Member is pretty well aware that the reason why the Inns of Court have escaped is in consequence of those Inns of Court being so well represented in Parliament, that any attempt to impose a rating upon them is always resisted. I see no other reason why they should escape; on the contrary, I think that all parties should bear their fair share of municipal burdens.

1541. Then those localities which I have named, including the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, have not contributed a halfpenny towards the general improvements of the metropolis?—No.

1542. Have they contributed towards the fire-brigade?—They contributed to nothing, except the main drainage.

1543. In the case of a fire, would the fire-brigade attend to extinguish the fire at those places?—Certainly.

1544. And not one of those places contribute a farthing towards that?—I think that they are exempt from all metropolitan taxation.

1545. Is it proposed, in any future measure, to tax those localties; are they still exempted in the new measure which you are about to bring into Parliament?—With regard to the rating of owners of property, I am not quite clear whether they would not be taxed in that case.

1546. But they are not specially mentioned, and the probability is that, as they have escaped, they are again about to escape from the general taxing power of the Board; so that in respect of the whole of the improvements carried out by the Metropolitan Board those various localities have escaped contributing one farthing?—I hope that we shall have the aid of the Corporation of the City of London to help us in imposing taxation upon those exempted districts.

1547. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you entertain any doubt that if the Metropolitan Board of Works were not embarrassed by this railway question, you could open a sufficient way within 12 months from this date?—We could do it in less time than that.

Monday, 8th April 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Bazley.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Kekewich.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

HENRY LETHEBY, Esq., M.B., called in; and Examined.

H. Letheby, Esq., M.B.
8 April 1867.

1548. *Chairman.*] ARE you the Medical Office, of Health under the City Commissioners of Sewers?—I am.

1549. Is it your duty to inspect and report upon the sanitary condition of the City?—Yes; it has been my duty to do so ever since the year 1855, when I succeeded Mr. Simon, who was appointed medical officer to the Privy Council.

1550. Do you receive special instructions from the Commissioners of Sewers for the conduct of your duties?—To a certain extent I do; but the conduct of my duties is pretty nearly defined in the several Acts of Parliament under which the Commissioners of Sewers exercise sanitary authority in the City.

1551. Have you any special instructions from the Commissioners beyond those contained in the Act of Parliament?—I have no special instructions.

1552. Then, do you report to them from time to time under those Acts of Parliament?—I report to them every week; I report to them quarterly, and I make a general yearly report upon the sanitary condition of the City.

1553. Have you the last yearly report?—I have and I think there is a copy on the table of the Committee. With the permission of the Committee, I will direct their attention to some leading facts brought out in that report, which I think deserve attention from the Committee.

1554. Will you be good enough to state what you wish to add to the statements contained in the report?—In the first place, I am anxious to say that the sanitary duties of the City have grown very much since I was appointed the sanitary officer of the City, and they have grown in consequence of the great desire which has been manifested by the Commissioners of Sewers to carry out in the very fullest manner the whole of the instructions of the Acts of Parliament with regard to the sanitary condition of the City. As an example of the way in which those duties have increased, I may direct the attention of the Committee to a table at page 20 of the Yearly Report, in which they will find that, at the end of the first year of my appointment in 1856, there were but 5,401 houses inspected in the course of the year, and 1,215 orders issued for sanitary improvement. If they will take the last year, 1866, they will perceive that 12,214 houses were inspected during the year, and 3,068 orders issued for sanitary inspection; I will put that table in (*handing in the same*, vide *Appendix*).

1555. Do you mean that those were separate houses, or that the same houses were inspected more than once?—Generally they were inspected more than once. We classify the houses of the City into those which require constant supervision, such as the registered lodging-houses of the City; those, in the next place, which require supervision about once in every two or three months; and those which do not require inspection above once in five or six months.

1556. Are the numbers which you have given the numbers of inspections?—Yes; we have in the City about 5,000 houses which require inspection at the present time; and we have so classified them.

1557. Upon what ground do they require inspection?—Because of there being the class of houses which are so referred to in the Sanitary Act of 1866, and in the City Sewers Act of 1851. In the last named Act they are called common lodging-houses, that is to say, houses which are occupied by more than one family, and the rental of which is at the rate or less than at the rate of 3*s.* 6*d.* per week per room. Those are the houses which require the immediate attention of myself and of the Inspectors of Nuisances.

1558. Are those chiefly in parishes without belonging to the City, or are they in central parts of the City?—They are distributed throughout the City. I have a list of them in the various subdivisions of the City, but I do not think that that is a matter of much interest to the Committee. Then I may say, that, in consequence of this very active supervision, the sanitary condition of the City has very considerably improved during the last 10 or 12 years. For example, the death-rate of the City, which is one of the tests of the sanitary condition of a place, has been very considerably diminished.

1559. That is stated in the beginning of your report, is it not?—It is; but, with the permission of the Committee, I will put in a table which will exhibit more clearly what the mortality of the City was during the quarter when the epidemic of cholera occurred in the City, as contrasted with the sanitary condition of the chief towns

H. Letheby, Esq., M.B.

8 April 1867.

towns in England during the same period. (*The same was handed in*, vide *Appendix.*)

1560. Do you think that you have now sufficient powers by law for the purpose of maintaining the City in a proper sanitary state?—I think we have. The Sanitary Act of 1866 has given the City the opportunity of making such rules and regulations under the sanction of the Secretary of State as, in my judgment, will enable the Commissioners of Sewers to maintain a better sanitary condition of the City, a stricter supervision, and a fuller carrying out of all the sanitary functions which they have to perform than they ever possessed before the Act was passed. I will put in, with your permission, a copy of the rules and regulations which have been made under the sanction of the Secretary of State for the government of those houses which are occupied by the poor. (*The same was handed in.*) There is another fact to which I would especially direct the attention of the Committee, and it is this, that another example of the sanitary improvement of the City is afforded by the reduction of the death rate from alvine disorders, which are almost the immediate tests of the sanitary condition of a place. I find, for example, that, beginning with the year 1848 and concluding with the year 1866, if we divide those 18 years (that is from the time that the Sewers Act of the City came into operation in 1848 until the present time) into three epochs, it will be noticed that during the first six years the mortality from diarrhœa was at the rate of 64·2 per thousand of all the deaths, and 93·5 per 10,000 of the population; in the next six years was reduced to 14·2 per thousand of all the deaths, and 20 per 10,000 of the population; and in the next six years it was reduced to 12·5 per thousand of all the deaths, and 18·1 per 10,000 of the population. Then in respect of another test, which I may refer to as an instance, of the great improvement which has been effected in the sanitary condition of the City in consequence of the exercise of the powers of the Commissioners of Sewers; I will take the test of cholera during the epidemics. During the epidemic of 1849 the City of London with its liberties lost 728 by deaths from cholera, which is at the ratio of 56 per 10,000 of the population. In the next epidemic of 1854 there were only 211 deaths from cholera, which is at the rate of 16·7 per 10,000 of the population; and in the epidemic of 1866, which had just passed away in the City at the time this table was prepared, there were only 93 deaths from cholera, which is only at the rate of 8·1 per 10,000 of the population. If I contrast that with the deaths in the metropolis, and in most of the towns of Europe, it will be seen how remarkably free the City has been from the force of the last epidemic.

1561. Will you put that table in?—I will. (*The same was handed in*, vide *Appendix.*)

1562. Are you supplied in the City with water by one company, or by more than one company?—The City is supplied with water by two companies. We are supplied with water mostly by the New River Company; but we are also supplied with water at the east end of the City of London by the East London Water Company.

1563. Have you any other points to bring under the notice of the Committee?—I may state that, at the last visitation of cholera, the moment the disease made its appearance in the City the Commissioners of Sewers took very active measures for the purpose of abating, as far as possible, the force of the epidemic. They met almost daily, and appointed an increased staff of inspectors, who, during the three months, made visits to upwards of 3,900 houses; in the next place they appointed a staff of inspectors to disinfect the poorer class of houses; and the result of that was, that 2,176 houses, as well as all the registered lodging-houses, were disinfected with chloride of lime in the City, and they were disinfected many times during the epidemic.

1564. That was done under the instructions issued by the Board of Health to the local authorities in the metropolis, was it not?—No; it was done by the special instructions of the Commissioners of Sewers.

1565. Do you mean that there was a different law laid down for the Commissioners of Sewers from that laid down for the rest of the metropolis?—In the City, at the time of the visitation of cholera, the execution of the Nuisances Removal Act rested as usual with the Commissioners of Sewers; but the execution of the Diseases Prevention Act rested with the guardians of the poor; and therefore those measures which were taken by the Commissioners of Sewers, were taken, so to speak, without any obligation beyond that of doing, as far as possible, what they could do to prevent the spread of the cholera.

1566. My question was whether the orders issued by the Privy Council on the appearance of the cholera were not issued to the Commissioners of Sewers in common with the rest of the metropolis?—They were not.

1567. You did not receive any orders?—We did not receive any orders.

1568. On what authority did you proceed?—Under the Nuisances Removal Act, and under the special Acts of the City.

1569. Have the City authorities a special Sanitary Act?—No; it was the special Sanitary Act of the Government.

1570. That is a general Act, is it not?—Yes. The Sanitary Act of 1866 is a general Act.

1571. What special authority have the Commissioners of Sewers to deal with disease different from that of the other local authorities of the metropolis?—They have the special authority of their own Acts of Parliament. Throughout the whole of the Acts of 1848 and 1851 you will find clauses giving powers to the Commissioners of Sewers which no other local body in the metropolis possesses; and I may say, moreover, that the Acts of 1848 and 1851 have been so successfully carried out in the City that they have been made the basis of almost all sanitary legislation throughout the country from the year 1848 to the present time.

1572. Can you give any reference to the particular clauses which give authority to the Commissioners of Sewers different to, or greater than that which is possessed by the other local authorities of the metropolis?—Yes; I will put in, if you please, an abstract of the duties of the Commissioners of Sewers which specially refers to those particular clauses in the Acts of 1848 and 1851 which do not apply to the metropolis generally. That abstract has been drawn up by the solicitor; but if necessary I could go through the Acts of Parliament, and point out the

the special differences between those Acts and what may be named the Acts of the metropolis.

1573. Can you give a reference merely to the clauses which contain the powers which are not possessed by the other local authorities of the metropolis?—I will look it over and send in a paper to that effect, if you desire it. You will find, I think, under the definition of common lodging-houses, in the Act of 1851, that in that respect the Commissioners of Sewers have power which no other authority in the metropolis has. The Common Lodging House Act outside the City is a Police Act, but within the City it is executed by the Commissioners of Sewers; and there is a clause (the 10th) in their Act of 1851, which gives them control over a class of property which the medical officers outside the City have no such control over.

1574. Are there any other points which you wish to bring under the consideration of the Committee?—No, except perhaps a point to which I refer with some little pride, viz., that the sanitary condition of the City is so well recognised throughout the kingdom and even on the Continent as being conducted in a very complete and satisfactory manner, so that whenever inquiries are made by the Government, or by local authorities, or by commissions from abroad, in respect of the execution of sanitary powers, I believe that they always come to the City of London and to myself for information upon that point.

1575. Mr. *Bazley.*] What is at the present time the death-rate in the City of London?—The death-rate of last year was 22·2 per thousand. The death-rate of the whole of the metropolis was 26·2, and in the chief towns and town districts of England it was 26·7, while in the whole of England it was 23·4.

1576. What do you suppose is the maximum death-rate of the City of London?—The worst district in the City is the West London Union, where the death-rate last year was 26·8 per 1,000, the average during the last ten years being 28·2; we have reduced the death-rate, therefore, to that extent. In Liverpool the death-rate is 50 per thousand; Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 31 per thousand, and so on. (*The Witness delivered in the Table*, vide *Appendix.*)

1577. Of course, you speak of the night population?—I do; I speak of the night census.

1578. And what may be the minimum rate?—The minimum rate is in the City of London Union, where it is 18·2 per thousand.

1579. Do you find an evident difference between the affluent classes and the poorer classes in the death-rate?—The difference probably is not so much dependent on the affluence of the classes as on the ages of the classes. In the City of London proper we have a larger proportion of young adults; whereas, in the other districts of the City we have a great deal of infant life, and that increases the mortality more than the wealth and other circumstances decrease it.

1580. Do you know the death-rate of the wealthy classes at the West-end?—I am not in a position at this moment to say, but I think the wealthy classes are not lower than 18 in 1,000.

1581. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you know what the death-rate is in Paris?—Yes; I receive from Paris every month the mortality returns. I think the mortality in Paris is either about 27 or 28, if I recollect rightly. It is 27·5 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of Paris, 31·7 in Vienna, and 25 in New York.

1582. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Will you state the various matters under your control?—In the first place we have control over the poorer class of houses and the persons occupying those houses; in the next place we have control over the courts and alleys of the City; in the third place we have control over the markets, and the slaughter-houses, and the cow-houses of the City; and we have control over the bakehouses of the City. There is a Bakehouse Act which is executed by the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London.

1583. You were about to state, when you were asked under what Acts you carried out your jurisdiction with respect to the cholera, what course you took in the City of London with respect to the pestilence of cholera when it attacked the eastern parts of the metropolis?—We appointed a staff of inspectors immediately to make an inspection of the poorer class of houses; we directed those who were already inspectors to execute their duties with increased vigilance; we set to work to disinfect all the houses of the poorer classes, and upwards of 3,000 of them were disinfected; the whole of the courts and alleys of the City were thoroughly washed and cleansed once or twice every week and drenched with a solution of carbolic acid; the public way was also kept constantly drenched with water containing a large quantity of carbolic acid, which is the most powerful disinfectant we know of; and in those localities where the water supply is not good the Commissioners ordered stand pipes to be erected so that the poor might be able to obtain water at all times. In the course of those operations the quantity of disinfecting material that was made use of amounted to eight tons of chloride of lime, four cwt. of carbolate of lime, and about 1,000 gallons of carbolic acid. It cost the Commissioners of Sewers of the City to carry out this measure 2,987 *l.* 12 *s.* 3 *d.*, and I do believe not only from what I saw then, but from a very large experience of the operation of epidemic disease, that it was the very active measures taken by the Commissioners of Sewers in disinfecting and keeping disinfected the whole of the City of London, which prevented the spread of the cholera from the eastern districts to the western, and that the City was in reality the barrier that prevented the progress of the epidemic.

1584. Was there a sub-committee of the Commission of Sewers to manage these matters during that time?—There was; and that sub-committee met daily, and all the sanitary officers were at their duty during a time which is generally the recess of the Corporation. There was very active supervision of the City during the whole of that time.

1585. Is it a fact that you lime-whited the courts with or without the leave of the owners of some of those courts, some of whom I believe objected, but nothing stopped the men from lime-whiting the courts that required it?—That is so. We lime-whited 73 of the courts of the City, and in many instances we did it in defiance of the landlords, who were very anxious that things should remain as they were.

1586. Are you aware, although it is not under your jurisdiction, that at the same time the whole of the police stations, gaols, and other

H. Letheby, Esq., M.B.

8 April 1867.

places under the control of the Commissioners of Sewers were also cleansed and lime-whitened upon that occasion?—I believe that was so, although it does not fall under my notice.

1587. You have stated the course which was taken with respect to water; what was the course taken with respect to the City pumps?—That was another thing which was very actively treated. Believing (in fact I may say knowing) that water from the surface wells of a town where it is liable to pollution from the neighbouring sewers or drains, is very likely to contain the germs of cholera, I advised the Commissioners of Sewers to shut up every one of the City pumps, and that was done, as I may say again, often in opposition to the wishes of the authorities of the district.

1588. When the pumps were shut up (which I believe was decided one day and a padlock and chain put round them the next day), did you make any provision by stand-pipes?—Yes; we provided stand-pipes directly, wherever there was necessity for them.

1589. With respect to the cholera, I believe that the means you took on this occasion were different, and even more vigorous than were taken on a former occasion?—Yes.

1590. From your experience on the recent occasion, have you anything to suggest with respect to pestilences occurring in the City of London, or elsewhere, whether they may be cholera, typhus fever, or any other epidemic, in regard to increased power that the City should possess, or in regard to a different mode of jurisdiction or management?—I think the Sanitary Act of 1866 has pretty well anticipated all that may be regarded as improved powers or increased powers that I should like to have seen exercised in the City. I think now under the Sanitary Act of 1866 we possess every power for dealing with the City during times of pestilence and at other times.

1591. At any rate, whatever may be the views as to the mode of management which the City took on this occasion; I believe at the West-end of London they have never had the same opportunity of testing the various matters that the City have, the pestilence not reaching them in the same shape?—That is true; but at the same time they were active and energetic.

1592. There is another matter which I think is now under your control, viz., the shipping?—Yes; that under the Sanitary Act of 1866 has been put under their control. The shipping under the jurisdiction of the Commissioners of Sewers, is at the present time inspected by an officer specially appointed for that duty; and I may say, that he is the only officer of that kind throughout the whole Port of London who makes a regular inspection weekly of every ship which comes into the district, and adopts such measures as regards the disinfection and improvement of ventilation of the shipping, as I think must be, in a very short time, highly advantageous in a sanitary point of view.

1593. Are the Committee to understand that no other authority has appointed any inspector to look after the shipping, as they might do under that Act except the City of London?—That is so.

1594. And do you believe that up to the present time you have introduced better modes of ventilating and cleansing than were in use before?—I do. They are not large vessels, they are mostly passenger vessels which lie between the Tower and London Bridge, which is the district over which the Commissioners of Sewers have supervision; but I am confident that in respect to passenger vessels, and with regard, not only to the passengers, but also to the crew, the authority which is now exercised by the Commission will be of great public advantage.

1595. What has been the nature of the complaints which you have made, and of the suggestions which you have made for alterations?—The complaints are mostly in respect of the lodgment of the crew, and it is a subject which at the present time is commanding a great deal of the attention of the Government. The treatment or condition of our mercantile marine and the lodging of the crew are notoriously bad, and the chief complaint has been that the forecastle in which the crew lodge is very defective in ventilation, and generally very dirty. This is really a national question, because at the present time the treatment of the merchant navy is a very important matter, and I should like to see a like authority fully exercised in every port of England.

1596. What is the nature of the improvement which you have succeeded in getting?—The ventilation and cleansing the forecastle, which have been done immediately by the captains of the vessels upon a complaint by our inspector.

1597. Then you think not only a benefit arises to the crew, but also that there is less danger of disease being brought from the ships to the shore in consequence of this cleansing and purifying the holds and forecastles of ships?—I have no doubt that the importation of disease from abroad, and principally cholera, is probably chiefly effected by the bad places in which the crews lodge. Filth is the holder, so to speak, of disease, and we import many diseases in that manner.

1598. I think that, amongst other matters to which you have not alluded, there are the gas and the water supplies upon which you have to make reports?—Yes.

1599. *Chairman.*] Have you any special authority as to that?—There is a general Act of 1860 with regard to the examination of gas; but I believe that the City of London, indeed I am certain that the City of London, is the only place where a regular examination of the gas is made. It is made three times every day, and it is in the City only where facts can be obtained in respect of the quality of the gas supplied to the districts; for an examination of the gas once a week or once a fortnight, as is done elsewhere, is very unsatisfactory both to the public and to the gas companies.

1660. Then, in your opinion, should not the various localities of the metropolis take advantage of that Act, in order to have a proper inspection and testing as to the quality and supply of gas?—That is my opinion.

1601. Mr. *Bazley.*] Have the wells been closed in the City of London which have been supposed to be supplied with water from graveyards?—All the pumps in the City of London, so far as I know, were closed at the time of the epidemic, and with regard to some of them it is a doubtful point whether the Commissioners of Sewers have really control over the pumps which belong to the parish authorities; at present, we do not know whether we can enforce regulations with regard to closing them; but we have done our best, and have warned the public against the

the danger of using them. We did actually close them at the time of the epidemic, and provided stand pipes in those localities where the pumps were found to be useful to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

1602. Would advantage, in your opinion, be derived to the public from the closing of those wells?—That is a very difficult question to answer; my own opinion, from the analysis of the water of the City wells is, that such water cannot be drunk or used for domestic purposes with safety. Instead of having, as the London water supply has, about from 21 to 22 grains of solid matter in the gallon, the water from the City pumps contains over 100 grains, chiefly of saltpetre and organic matter, saltpetre being the produce of the oxidation of the matter of sewage and graveyards.

1603. As a medical man, are you of opinion that pure water contributes to the prevention of cholera?—There is no doubt of it; I mean by pure water, not water which is merely charged with a small proportion of total saline matter, but irrespectively of the quantity of saline matter, I refer to the absence of decomposing organic matter.

1604. In the case of those dens which you visited, when you visited them, did you see that pure water was given to them afterwards?—We did our best with regard to it, but the difficulties were very great in dealing with the water supply, particularly at that time, when we had no power to compel a landlord to put up a cistern or standpipe, so that we could only erect a stand-pipe for the use of the inhabitants; but by the Sanitary Act of 1866, powers were given to the Commissioners to make such rules and regulations in regard to the supply of water, as will henceforth, I believe, be a great advantage.

1605. Are you aware that the City authorities intend to secure the power of closing the wells which are supplied from graveyards?—I am not aware of it at all; it is a question which has been seriously entertained by the Commissioners of Sewers, but at the present moment they scarcely know what power they have in respect of it.

1606. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect to overcrowding, have you been able by the present regulations to prevent overcrowding in the houses of the City of London?—Yes; when I entered on my duties, it was a common thing for me to see in my visits early in the morning to poor people's houses, a whole floor covered with lodgers, who had been sleeping there for the night; we have not, I believe, in the City of London a single instance of that at the present time; for very soon after my appointment as the sanitary officer of the City I advised the Commissioners to make certain rules and regulations with regard to the government of such houses, and to appoint an inspector, whose sole duty it should be to inspect such houses, and thus we soon remedied that which was a great cause of disease in the City.

1607. Mr. *Mill.*] Are you speaking of common lodging-houses, or of others?—The common lodging-houses of the City of London are different from those outside the City. The common lodging-house outside the City of London is occupied by tramps for the night, and is under the supervision of the police, but a common lodging house within the City is also a place in which the rooms are let at 3*s.* 6*d.* per week or less; and so advantageous has been this supervision and control by reason of the provisions of the City Sewers Act, that it was made the subject of a clause in the Sanitary Act of 1866.

1608. So that a very large number of houses occupied by the poorer classes have been placed under your control, and have been inspected by you?—Yes.

1609. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Your calculations are based upon the night population, are they not?—That is so.

1610. Would any appreciable portion of the night population consist of persons in charge of warehouses, buildings, and offices?—Yes.

1611. Would not such persons generally be of mature age?—I have said so. The mortality in the City of London proper is only at the rate of 18·2 per 1,000 of the population, chiefly, not because they are more wealthy, but because they are of mature age, and of better health.

1612. That would reduce the death-rate, would it not?—It would

1613. *Chairman.*] When they get old they cease to live in those districts, do they not?—When they get old they get into our City workhouses. I always bring in the death-rate (which nobody else does) of the people in the City workhouses that are out of the City, one at Bow, one at Homerton, and one at Holloway, as if they were actually in the City, and that must swell the mortality very considerably.

1614. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] They have not their families residing with them in those offices and warehouses, have they?—Not in many instances; but that you may form some notion of the crowding of people in the City of London (because there is a very false impression abroad with regard to the occupation of those places, and that the City at night is not very largely inhabited), I may state that there is no place in all England so densely populated as the City of London. In the East London Union the number of persons to an acre in the Census of 1861 was 266; in the West London Union it was 200; in the City of London Union it was 105 persons; making an average for the entire City of 157. Now the number of persons to an acre in the whole metropolis is but 36. In the chief towns and town districts of England it is not above five, and in all England and Wales it is less than half a person. I have not had an opporunity of comparing it with the density of the population of Paris, but the impression upon my mind is, that there is no place in the world which is so densely populated as the City of London, even taking the night census.

1615. *Chairman.*] Have you compared it with the adjoining parishes?—I have compared it with the whole of London.

1616. That would embrace a large field area, would it not?—It would, and it would be about 36 to an acre.

1617. Mr. *Tite.*] If the Commissioners of Sewers have not the power of shutting up the pumps if they think fit under your advice, I presume you would think it exceedingly desirable that not only there, but everywhere else in the metropolis, that power should be given to the local authority?—I do, and I am not sure whether, under the amended Nuisances Removal Act of 1860, we have not the power. The 7th section of the Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Act of 1860,

H. Letheby, Esq., M.B.

8 April 1867.

1860, says, that "All wells, fountains, and pumps provided under section 50 of 'The Public Health Act, 1848,' or otherwise, for the use of the inhabitants of any place, and not being the property of or vested in any person or corporation other than officers of such place, shall be vested in the local authority under this Act for such place, who shall from time to time cause to be kept in good repair and condition and free from pollution all wells, fountains, and pumps vested in them under this Act, and may also keep in good repair and condition, and free from pollution, other wells, fountains, and pumps dedicated to or open to the use of the inhabitants of such place."

1618. But that does not give the power to close them, does it?—No; that is the difficulty. It gives power to keep them in repair.

1619. It is impossible to keep them from pollution, is it not?—Quite impossible.

1620. And, therefore, if that power is not sufficient you think it ought to be amended?—I think that it would be a great advantage.

1621. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect to the smoke nuisance, have you been successful in the City of London in completely getting rid of that nuisance from manufactories?—Yes. The smoke nuisance (I am speaking merely from memory) was dealt with, I think, in the Sewers Act of 1851; and although there was great difficulty in putting that particular section of the Act of Parliament in force at that time, yet now it is a very rare thing indeed to have any smoke complaints in the City of London. We have, by the strict carrying out of the Act of Parliament, in that particular, done away with the nuisance arising from smoke in the City of London.

1622. That was carried out by the Commissioners of Sewers, was it not?—It was; and by reason of powers from their own Act of Parliament, either of 1848 or of 1851.

1623. *Chairman.*] Did not the Government, when the cholera was in the metropolis, issue an order to regulate the shutting up of pumps in the metropolis?—I think not; but if the Government issued such an order as that, it must have come from the Privy Council; and we did not execute the orders of the Privy Council.

1624. Did the Government issue an Order of the Privy Council?—I do not think so. I think that they advised that attention should be directed to the condition of public wells; but I am not sure whether Government has power to order anything of that sort.

1624. Is there any gas company which supplies the City of London, exclusive of any other part of the metropolis?—Yes; the Great Central Gas Company.

1625. Where are their works?—At Bow Common.

1626. Where do you test the gas?—Our testing place is in Aldgate, at a point where the three companies supplying the City happen to have pipes, and there the testing office has been put up.

1627. Mr. *Tite.*] What has been the result of the testing?—That, with regard to the illuminating power of the gas, they are always above the requirements of the Act of Parliament. The illuminating power is generally somewhere about 13½ candles.

1628. And as to purity, what is the result?—As to purity, the gas is not always equal to the requirements of the Act of Parliament.

1630. *Chairman.*] Does the company which you mentioned supply the City exclusively of any other part?—Yes; the other companies supply other parts of London.

1631. Are you aware that the population of the Strand district, which is under the Metropolis Local Management Act, is at the rate of 42,868 to 166 acres?—I was not aware of that from my recollection.

1632. That would be denser than any part of the City, would it not?—That would be 259 to an acre, and in the East London Union it is 266 to an acre. I know at the time when I drew that table up I looked into the matter a good deal, and I do not believe that any part of the world is so densely populated as the City of London, taking its entire area.

1633. Do you know that the parish of St. Giles's-in-the-Fields has a population of 36,684 in 123 acres?—That is 290 persons, or thereabouts, to an acre.

1634. Do you know that Spitalfields has a population of 20,593 in 74 acres?—No doubt the sub-division, so to speak, of the registration sub-districts would, if worked out in that kind of way, appear to be more densely populated; but if you take a whole registration district, as I have done, I think you will find that the districts of the City are the most densely populated.

1635. You have not taken the union, have you?—Yes. The unions are the districts of the City; there are several sub-divisions of each union, and those sub-divisions would show in many instances, a much denser population than we see here over the whole area.

1636. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Do you think the water supply of the City of London, at the present moment, is of pure quality and ample in quantity?—Yes; I think the quantity of water, at the present time supplied to the City is good and ample.

1637. Mr. *Locke.*] The water supply you say in the City is good and ample; but is that universally so?—Yes.

1638. Is the water supply sufficient to the poorer houses?—The water supply is sufficient, but the mode in which it is distributed by landlords and used by the poor makes it insufficient. If we take that which is distributed, viz., 30 gallons a head, I say it is nearly double the quantity that is required by the people.

1639. In what way does it become insufficient, and for what reason?—It becomes insufficient from defective pipes, and defective contrivances for the purpose of cutting off the overflow. It runs to waste in the sewers, and generally it becomes insufficient from defective appliances in regard to the distribution of the water.

1640. Does that arise from the expense which would be incurred in having the proper apparatus affixed?—Yes.

1641. Has your attention been drawn to the system suggested of a continuous supply of water?—It has. I have reported upon the subject.

1642. What is your view with respect to that?—My view as to that subject as a broad proposition, is the view which is commonly entertained by all who have any experience of it, namely, that it would be highly beneficial to the whole of the metropolis if the inhabitants had a constant supply of water, but on the contrary I ought to say that until the whole of the appliances are put

H. Letheby, Esq., M.B.

8 April 1867.

put into an effective and proper condition, such as the Acts of Parliament of the Water Companies provide for, it would be utterly impossible to maintain a constant supply; and all the water of the hills of Wales or the Lakes of Cumberland would not supply London.

1643. *Chairman.*] Do you think any new power is required to be given to the local authorities in the metropolis for the purpose of obtaining for the inhabitants a good supply of water?—I do not think so; I think the powers of the Act of Parliament at the present time are sufficient. If two-thirds of the consumers ask for a constant supply, and put their services and cisterns into such a condition as will maintain a constant supply, the companies are bound to give it, and I do not see what other power can be required.

1644. Mr. *Locke.*] Then, I understand you to state that the fault lies in the construction of the apparatus, and not in the supply given by the companies?—That is so. I believe that if the constant supply were put on, and if the apparatus were in a proper condition, we should have only a little more than half the present supply of water used by the population. At Norwich and Nottingham, and several other places where a well-regulated constant service exists, the proportion of water used is not above 19 or 20 gallons a-head, and here it is thirty gallons a-head.

Mr. Alderman SYDNEY HEDLEY WATERLOW, called in; and Examined.

Mr. Alderman *S. H. Waterlow.*

1645. *Chairman.*] ARE you an Alderman of the City of London?—Yes.

1646. And you are a Sheriff also at the present time, are you not?—Yes.

1647. Have the City of London taken any measures to provide dwellings for the poorer classes of people in the City? — They have during the last three years. About 18 months ago they opened a very large block in St. James's, Clerkenwell, consisting of 168 separate tenements, and 12 shops on the ground-floor. They have been in occupation nearly two years. They were built at a cost, including the land, of about 54,000 *l.*, and a report has been recently made of the first 12 months' working, showing a net return of rather more than four per cent. upon the entire outlay. The rental of the tenements varies from 4 *s.* 6 *d.* to 7 *s.* 6 *d.* a week; the difference in rent arising from the cheaper ones having but two rooms and a separate closet and scullery, whereas the others have three rooms, and the dearest are in the best positions in the front street, the cheapest being in inferior positions at the back.

1648. Does that rent include all rates and taxes?—It includes gas, water rates, and taxes of all kinds.

1649. Do the landlords keep the premises in repair?—Yes.

1650. Were those premises built out of the City corporate estate, or were they built as part of any improvement out of any fund appropriated by Parliament for improvements?—The Clerkenwell Improvement Act of 1851, I think, gave to the Corporation a permissive power; and some four years ago, when the overcrowding was very much complained of, I pressed the Corporation to exercise that permissive power; but they were obliged to pay the money out of the City cash, so that it is their own corporate property.

1651. Then have they, in their own corporate capacity, bought the land from the Improvement Committee?—As a Corporation they have bought the land from the Clerkenwell Improvement Trust, of which they were trustees; and they have paid 15,000 *l.* to that Trust for the ground.

1652. Therefore they are now the landlords and the owners of those tenements?—Yes.

1653. And they have 168 tenants from week to week of those premises?—Yes.

1654. Do you think it a desirable thing that a municipal corporation should have tenants of that sort in great numbers?—It is a very desirable thing for the tenants. I may state that there were three times as many applications as could be received, and that during the first 12 months the gross rent accruing was paid within 10 *s.*; there was not 10 *s.* lost on the gross rent; showing that the tenants are anxious by punctual payments to retain their advantage of having healthy good tenements.

1655. Do you consider that the rents received are a good market value for the premises, or is a fixed rate put upon the premises without reference to the just market value which they would command?—I think that it is a fair market value, if you bear in mind that the landlord should, in his own interest, have a tenant who has an interest in remaining, and who would take care of the property. I think that, perhaps, a higher rate of 3 *d.* or 6 *d.* a week, might be obtained per tenement, but it would be at the risk of having people who did not care how long they stopped, and there would be no saving in the end.

1656. Do you mean that the 4 per cent. interest excludes any replacement fund or any fund for repairs?—Yes; I will read the paragraph of the Report which deals with that question. The gross rent is 3,395 *l.* 10 *s.*; the estimated average annual expenditure, including rates, taxes, repairs, and outgoings, is 1,170 *l.*, or about 35 per cent. of the gross rent.

1657. Does that include any fund set apart as a permanent fund, for rebuilding, or for substantial repairs, at any future period, or does it only include the repairs for the year?—It includes the estimate for annual repairs spread over seven years, and yields still more than 4 per cent. per annum.

1658. Is that the only block of buildings which they have erected?—That is the only block of buildings which they have erected. They have converted some large buildings in Islington, but they have been so recently occupied, that I am not in a position to speak as to the results. I mean the large taverns which have been unoccupied at the Cattle Market.

1659. Have they been converted into lodging-houses for the people?—They have.

1660. But you are not aware of the financial result of that operation?—Only that it will cost 10,000 *l.*; but what it will return, of course, we cannot say yet.

1661. Did it cost 10,000 *l.* to convert them from taverns into lodging-houses for working people?—Yes, they were very ill-adapted for small tenements, because they were in large rooms.

Mr. Alderman *S. H. Waterlow.*

8 April 1867.

1662. Mr. *Kekewich.*] Do you think that those buildings have acted very beneficially upon the condition of the poorer classes, the artisan classes of the City of London?—I think that it stimulates them to greater order and cleanliness; each one has a separate supply of water.

1663. Do you think that it has relieved a great deal of poverty?—I am sure that it has relieved a great deal of disease, consequent upon over-crowding, which is a great cause of pauperism.

1664. If any of the lodgings become vacant, do you find plenty of people ready to take them?—We have never lost any rent there since they were first opened.

1665. You have lost tenants, I presume?—Yes, one goes out and another comes in. We have always more on the books than we can accommodate.

1666. So that there is great competition, I suppose, and a number of applications?—Always. The buildings are only just outside the City boundary.

1667. Mr. *Locke.*] Is the value of lodging-houses enhanced by their being near to the place where the men work?—Yes, a man can save an hour a day in the journey, it is an hour's work to him. I may say that we never take a tenant without inquiring where he lived before, whether he paid the rent, and whether his character is generally respectable. One Scotch-woman who applied, was asked, "How can you afford to pay 6 *s.* 6 *d.* a week, when you have only been paying 5 *s.* 6 *d.* a week." "Oh," she said, "sir, my husband will be so near to his work that he can come home to his meals, and that is worth more than the extra shilling a week to me."

1668. Do those houses in those situations near to the places where the men work generally command a better price?—Always. Reverting for a moment from the Corporation, I may say that the dwellings belonging to a company with which I am connected in Southwark, fetch 1 *s.* per week per tenement more than in Wapping, although the buildings are precisely the same in every respect, as regards size and accommodation.

1669. How do you account for that?—Because in Southwark there is scarcely any decent supply of the article, and the tenants are obliged to live near the City for their work, when they have to get there at seven or eight o'clock in the morning.

1670. Are there not a great many workmen living in Southwark who are employed in the City?—No doubt.

1671. And, therefore, it is necessary for them to be near their work?—Yes.

1672. And, therefore, the lodgings in which they can live being near their work command a higher price?—Yes.

1673. Do those houses pay your company for the outlay, and do they give you a sufficient remuneration?—The company have paid five per cent. every half-year; but then, that is upon the whole of the tenements situated in the parishes of St. John's, Wapping; St. Saviour's, Southwark; St. Leonard's, Shoreditch; St. Luke's, Middlesex; St. Pancras, and St. James's, Clerkenwell.

1674. Then you say that those in Southwark command a higher price; they must, therefore, pay more than 5 per cent?—No; the ground rent is dearer. Comparing Southwark with Wapping, the ground at Southwark was rented from the Metropolitan Board of Works at a high rent, and the ground at Wapping was rented from the Governors of Bridewell at a low ground rent; and, by reason of the difference of ground rent, the absolute commercial profit remains pretty much the same.

1675. Have you any difficulty in finding sites for building these lodging houses in those localities in which the men work?—We have, of course, in the City, or its immediate neighbourhood; but we have not much difficulty in what I call the districts inhabited by the working people.

1676. What are those districts?—We have recently taken nine acres of small houses in Bethnal Green.

1677. That is a considerable distance from the place where the men work, is it not?—It is about 20 minutes from the docks and 25 minutes from the Royal Exchange; but the great difficulty in the way is the inequality of the method in which the local taxation is assessed.

1678. How is that?—In some parishes, for instance, in Southwark, the assessment is 59 per cent. on the net annual value; in St. James's, Clerkenwell, the assessment is 75 per cent.; and in St. Luke's it is 81 per cent. That arises from the fact that each of the Unions has a separate Act, and each of them determine the assessment upon a different principle.

1679. Have you any lodging-houses in St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark?—We have not.

1680. The rates there are very high, are they not?—I believe they are. St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, is nearly the highest I have, being 6 *s.* 7 *d.* in the pound; and, to show the pressure of 6 *s.* 7 *d.* in the pound, take the working man at 15 *s.* a week, who rents a single room at 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a week; 1 *s.* 3 *d.* would be about the rateable value, and putting the rates at 6 *s.* 7 *d.* in the pound they would be one-third of that. That makes it a local tax of 5 *d.* a week upon the man who pays 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a week gross rent.

1681. Have you a written statement with regard to those points?—I have not a written statement. I came here unprepared except to answer verbally any questions which the Committee may wish to put to me.

1682. Mr. *Tite.*] What was the cost of building those houses?—£. 38,559 for the Corporation buildings; but there were some other expenses. The total expense was 54,051 *l.*, 15,000 *l.* being for the land.

1683. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Can you inform the Committee in respect to the houses which have been built by the Corporation, what is the proportion of the wages of the occupants to the rent which they pay?—I have made a calculation, that a man having 15 *s.* a week, pays 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a week for one room, and that a man having 25 *s.* a week, on an average, occupies two rooms at 5 *s.*, and the skilled artisan at 35 *s.* a week, or thereabouts, generally takes three rooms at a cost of 7 *s.* or 7 *s.* 6 *d.* a week.

1684. That is to say, that a person receiving 15 *s.* a week pays one-sixth of his income in rent, the person receiving 25 *s.* a week pays one-fifth of

of his income, and the person receiving 35 *s.* a week pays one-fifth of his income?—About one-fifth.

1685. Have you any persons below that income of 15 *s.*, do you suppose?—It is rather difficult to say; I do not think there are any separate occupiers with incomes below 15 *s.* a week; they may be sub-tenants.

1686. Do you know that persons of much smaller wages than 15 *s.* a-week, say 12 *s.*, 10 *s.*, or 9 *s.* a-week, have to pay a much larger proportion of their income for rent than persons of higher wages?—If you cannot get a room at less than 2 *s.* 6 *d.* per week, of course it makes it a larger proportion out of an income of 10 *s.* or 12 *s.*

1687. I believe that a very large proportion of the masses of this metropolis are persons in receipt of less than 15 *s.* per week, are they not?—I really cannot speak from my own experience, because the tenants in the tenements to which I refer are generally in the receipt of 15 *s.* a-week, and upwards.

1688. Then all those improvements with respect to the model lodging-houses, the houses built by the various companies, and the houses built by the Corporation, neither do nor will benefit persons who receive less wages than 15 *s.* per week?—Yes, they will, by providing a large supply of a superior article, we release a larger supply of the inferior article for those who require it.

1689. With respect to the taxation of house property in the metropolis, will you state your views as to the taxation of smaller tenements as taken in proportion to that of the larger houses in the metropolis; that is to say, taking the taxation of Bethnal Green and Stepney as compared with that of the West-end of the town, how does the taxation press upon the smaller houses?—I have made a comparison, and I have made a memorandum of the difference in the proportion paid by the working men of the local taxes, as compared with the more wealthy class who live in the richer unions.

1690. Will you state what the difference is?—Following out the calculation of half-a-crown a-week for the man who earns 15 *s.* a-week, and 5 *s.* out of wages of 25 *s.* a-week, and 7 *s.* 6 *d.* out of wages of 30 *s.* a-week; I find that the persons who earns 15 *s.* a-week in wages, spend 2 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.* per cent. of their gross income in local taxes. This calculation is based upon the taxation of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, and Bethnal Green. The working man spending in rent 5 *s.* a-week out of 25 *s.* a-week, pays 3 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.* per cent. of his gross income; and it is the same as regards the man at 35 *s.* a-week, because the rent of both those classes amounts to about one-fifth of their income. It is difficult to say what a wealthy man is, but if you take a man at 1,000 *l.* a-year, spending 100 *l.* a-year in rent, in a West-end parish, where probably the taxation would not be more than 4 *s.* in the pound, his house would be rated probably at 90 *l.*, and he would spend 18 *l.* of his 1,000 *l.* in local taxes, which would be only 1 *l.* 11 *s.* per cent. as against the 2 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.* and the 3 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.* per cent. which the working men pay.

1691. Does not the house-tax press with extreme heaviness on the houses in the City of London, the houses being many of them let out in small tenements, and yet having to contribute to the house-tax, because the house as a whole is rated for more than 20 *l.* a-year?—That presses so heavily, that in the case of all the houses built under my directions, we have avoided the house-tax in 808 tenements, by a peculiar form of construction; I may state also that the Corporation do not pay house-tax, in consequence of the particular form of construction which is adopted in the houses which they have built.

1692. But is it not the case that the older class of houses, which are of inferior description, and which are not provided with the comforts which your houses and the Corporation houses offer, have to submit to a house-tax of 9 *d.* in the pound?—Yes; all houses in occupation as separate tenements, having internal staircases, are liable to the house-tax, but those having external staircases have been ruled by the judges not to be liable to the house-tax.

1693. *Chairman.*] Does not that ruling of the judges refer to staircases which have no outer door to them?—I ought to have said external doors commanding the tenements.

1694. Are you aware that, if the staircase is a common public staircase without a door, each tenement leading into it is defended by its own street-door, and becomes separate, whereas, if there is a door at the foot of the staircase, which is under the control of somebody else, that is one occupation?—Yes. If house-tax were paid for those houses the proportion of the local taxes paid by those people would be so much the larger, but the tax is avoided by having the doors of the tenements opening into the air.

1695. Mr. *Locke.*] In a gallery?—In a gallery or a passage.

1696. *Chairman.*] The same thing would be done as regards any ordinary house occupied by people if the street-door were entirely taken away, and private doors given to each floor?—Yes, precisely so; but then as the form of construction of old houses does not permit that, I apprehend that the worthy Alderman's question was to show that the large mass of people living in the houses which are otherwise constructed are still liable to the 9 *d.* in the pound, which would make the taxation still heavier than the figures which I have submitted to the Committee.

1697. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With regard to the taxation upon persons receiving less than 15 *s.* a week, who could not be accommodated in houses of that kind, they would be subject to this charge of 9 *d.* in the pound for house-tax, would they not?—Yes, in addition.

1698. I believe that it would be correct to say that this 9 *d.* in the pound being charged upon the property tax valuation amounts really to a charge of 1 *s.* in the pound upon the landlord of the house, because the landlord has to pay the tax whether the house is fully occupied or not; consequently, to get a return, he must have a rental to pay him a shilling in the pound?—That is so, because the income tax assessment is always much higher; for instance, my buildings in Shoreditch are rated to the poor at 500 *l.* a-year, and to the income tax at 820 *l.* If those buildings were liable to the house tax, the calculation would be so much more against the tenant.

1699. Then may it be taken that 5 per cent. of the rent goes for house tax in those large houses?—That would be so.

1700. Have you anything to suggest with

Mr. Alderman *S. H. Waterlow.*

8 April 1867.

respect to local taxation, whether it be increased, or whether it be diminished, even if that increase should be for carrying out improvements for the general benefit of the houses of the metropolis?—That is a very large question. Of course I do not know how far I am at liberty to enter upon it, but the very people for whom I am speaking, viz., those who are resident at the east end of the town, feel that they are paying a very much larger share than they ought to pay of the local burthens.

1701. My question is this; whether you think that, if further money is to be raised in this metropolis for various matters connected with it, some other source should not be found than the addition of a further increase to the local taxation of the inhabitants?—If there is any increase to local taxation in the districts with which I am principally acquainted at the east end of London, I am afraid that many of those who are now taxpayers will become receivers of rates; for it would necessitate the raising of the rents to the extent, of course, of the increase of the local taxes, because what the landlord pays in rates the tenant must pay in rent.

1702. *Chairman.*] That would be the same in any way; if money is taken out of their pockets they must pay it, and if they are impoverished to that extent they must become receivers instead of payers?—Yes.

1703. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] In your opinion, has local taxation in the poorer districts upon the poorer classes of the community reached its utmost limits?—I think that local taxation in the eastern districts of London has reached as much as those districts can possibly bear.

Mr. William Haywood, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Haywood.*

1704. *Chairman.*] You are the Engineer to the Commissioners of Sewers, are you not?—Yes.

1705. Is it within your province to superintend the cleansing of the streets?—I assist the Commission by my advice in matters concerning the cleansing of the streets, and I prepare the conditions of contract for cleansing the streets.

1706. Do you recollect the heavy fall of snow which took place at Christmas?—Yes.

1707. Was that snow cleared very rapidly from the streets of the City?—I think that it was cleared away very rapidly, considering the quantity of snow which fell upon that occasion.

1708. Was that done under the ordinary machinery of the local administration of the Commissioners of Sewers, or by any extraordinary power?—It was done under the ordinary powers of the Commission. They made what exertions they could after the contractors had failed to execute their contracts in the way they should have done. I should state that the Commissioners contract for the daily removal of the whole of the snow and other matters with some of the largest contractors in London, and they have within these two or three years very largely increased their expenditure for the purpose of maintaining the streets in a satisfactory condition.

1709. Is it a speculative contract as regards the contractor, or is he paid so much for actual work done when the emergency arises?—They take the contingency upon themselves, and are paid very largely for taking that contingency. They are bound to remove the whole of the snow, whatever quantity it may be.

1710. Within what time after it falls?—Immediately after it falls. Each contractor is bound to remove everything which lies upon the public highways every day throughout the whole year in every court and passage and alley, and I believe that the City of London is the only district in the metropolis which has that daily cleansing throughout the whole area. On the occasion in question no doubt the contractors were half paralyzed by the emergency; after a time, towards the middle of the day, they put on a considerable number of extra men and extra carts and horses; but not sufficient, and the Commission subsequently had recourse to other means by employing men and horses themselves to complete the removal of the snow.

1711. Was the snow carted away, or thrown into the river?—Some was thrown into the river, and a portion was swept down the sewers, and was got rid of by that means. Most of it was carted away until a thaw set in.

1712. How was it swept down the sewers?—A thaw ensued, and the snow, in a semifluid state, was thrown into the sewers.

1713. Then, as regards the carting away, it did not succeed?—No; the amount to be carted away would have taxed the energies of every contractor in London. On that morning I calculated that there were 116,546 loads of snow lying in the City of London; and during that and the following days that quantity was supplemented by what was thrown off from the roofs of the houses. On the occasion of a snow-storm, scarcely anybody who has good horses likes to allow them to go out if he can possibly help it; and quite two horses are then required to do the work of one horse. So that, probably, if the whole of the scavenging contractors in London had placed their horses and carts at the disposal of the Commissioners, they could not have performed that which the contractors were bound to do in the City alone; that is to say, remove the whole of the snow from the public ways of the City on the day after the fall.

1714. I presume that unless the thoroughfares in all directions from the City were kept clear, it would be impossible to cart away snow falling in the City?—It would have increased the difficulty, because it would have increased the labour to the horses; but really it was impossible to remove the snow from the main streets of the metropolis, and indeed from the City, as quickly as everybody desired that it should have been removed on the occasion referred to.

1715. Do you think it would be desirable, on an emergency like that, that all the energies of the contractors should be devoted, in the first instance, to keeping clear the main thoroughfares and approaches to the City, rather than in cleaning out what may be called the subordinate streets of their own district?—That is always done in the City.

1716. But my question referred to the approaches to the City?—It is much more important to clear the City itself; because when people are

are in the City the larger portion of them remain there the whole day; and it is important for pedestrians, as well as for vehicular traffic, which is far greater in the City than elsewhere.

1717. I suppose that the same rule would apply to the City; that it is desirable to clear the main thoroughfares before you touch the branch streets?—Undoubtedly the whole energy of the contractors should be concentrated upon the main lines of thoroughfare in the City and elsewhere. I may mention that, on a subsequent occasion we tried throwing the snow into the sewers, still more extensively, but when you have removed 1,000 loads of snow, which is really a great deal of work, it makes scarcely any visible impression upon the great mass lying in the streets, upon the occasion of a heavy fall of snow.

1718. Therefore, in the case of a heavy fall of snow, the utmost energy of all the contractors, and all the available means of cartage, would not do more than clear some of the main thoroughfares?—Not on such an occasion as that referred to. I believe that if the whole of the contractors' staffs in the metropolis were brought out, it would not clear the main thoroughfares as speedily as would be desirable.

1719. And if you extended that to the whole of the cartage power of the metropolis which might be available for such a purpose, do you think that they would not be able to do more than clear the main thoroughfares of the metropolis?—Undoubtedly not; and in using the term "cartage" I am including all the carts that could be made available. The quantity of snow lying in the main thoroughfares of the metropolis alone must have been on that occasion half a million of cart-loads, at the very least. I am not including Kensington and Bow to get at those figures; I am taking it within much smaller limits than that.

1720. Then the cartage to any available place of deposit is a considerable distance, I presume?—From the City the distances to which the refuse is carted vary from a mile and a-half to three miles, and the consequence is, that taking the average distance as two miles, with the time spent in loading not more than four or five cart-loads at the outside can be removed during the day by one cart; and in snowy weather, or rather on the occasion of a severe snow storm, it requires to move that single cart-load at least two horses. I think that what was done to some extent during the recent falls of snow should be done to a far larger extent, that is to say, more snow should have been thrown into the river. But there is even difficulty about that; if you throw it in the different creeks or public wharves (such few as are now remaining), it is apt to choke them up; it will not float away readily unless thrown into the current; the barges and other craft are frequently lying at those wharves, and it might cause barges to be sunk. I have seen almost mountains of snow lying at the edge of the wharves on some occasions. It is thrown over the bridges occasionally, but that is rather a dangerous operation. On the last occasion, when a heavy fall of snow occurred, I had the whole of the sewer-men told off to various side entrances to the sewers which were adjacent to manufactories from which there was a run of hot water, and we got rid of considerable quantities of snow in that way; but, nevertheless, it was really an insignificant quantity in comparison with the great mass which had to be removed.

1721. Do you see any use in arranging for the deposit of snow in convenient places in the metropolis, so as to avoid the long lead of cartage to get rid of the snow?—That was done in the City to a slight extent, but in the City there are very few places in which you could deposit the snow without creating a nuisance. No doubt there are large areas in districts surrounding the City where it might be thrown so as to reduce the length of the cartage.

1722. And without obstructing any of the thoroughfares?—Yes, but you must create a nuisance to somebody by doing it. For instance, we might throw a great quantity of snow in front of the Royal Exchange, but the people there would complain of it undoubtedly; and so you might in Trafalgar-square, but that would be an inconvenience to the few, and a very great convenience to the many. There is no reason why that should not be done throughout the whole metropolis, and it has been done in the City to some extent.

1723. On an organised system when the fall is great?—Yes; but the great difficulty is procuring carts and horses; and there is even more difficulty about procuring men than is imagined, although I am not one of those who believe you could not procure men, but it must be at double wages.

1724. I suppose that in some roads such as the Mile End-road, you might have a considerable bank of snow without carting it away at all?—In a very wide street like that, the proper way would be to clear for two lines of carriages, and form a heap between the kerbs and the centre of the road; but where there are shops that prevents carts from getting up to the shops to load and unload, and such a mode is impossible in streets when narrow.

1725. But with a proper use what may be called the available means of the whole metropolis, the inconvenience might be to some extent modified, might it not, if not altogether got rid of in a very short time?—You may moderate the inconvenience in short lines, but as to getting rid of it altogether, that would be impossible. It resolves itself into a mere calculation of the cubical contents of the snow storm.

1726. Mr. *Kekewich.*] With regard to the snow in front of the houses on the pavement, is that removed by the occupiers of the houses?—Under the Police Act they are bound to sweep it into the carriage way, which is done.

1727. And are they bound to scrape off the ice which is frozen afterwards?—The ice is frozen snow, and therefore if they do not remove the ice they have not removed the snow.

1728. That is as you are aware the most dangerous part of the snow?—Yes. It is not done anywhere in the metropolis in a very refined manner; they take off the worst of it only; what I think would be the best thing would be to make it an obligation on the part of the householders to strew the footways in front of their premises with some material to prevent its slipperiness.

1729. Is it not an obligation at present?—No. I am not quite sure that it is not an offence under the Police Act to cast anything on to the public ways. In St. Petersburgh everybody is compelled to strew gravel or sand outside their doors.

Mr. *W. Haywood.*

8 April 1867.

1730. But there is no obligation at present upon the occupiers in the City of London to do that?—There is only the obligation to efficiently cleanse (I think that is the phrase) the footway in front of their dwellings or premises.

1731. That generally leaves a little space not cleared between the houses, does it not?—That is not so. They are compelled to clear the whole frontage of their premises, just as I, living in the suburbs, am compelled to clear 70 or 80 feet in front of my dwelling-house. Although it is done very capriciously in all parts of London, I believe it is better done in the City than elsewhere; but that which escapes observation elsewhere is sure to be complained of in the City, because the traffic is so vast, and there are so many people who are inconvenienced if anything is not properly attended to.

1732. But are the Committee to understand that your Commission cleans the pavement, and not, as in the rest of the metropolis, that the inhabitants clear it under the supervision of the police?—No; the reverse. The same law prevails in the City, viz., that the whole frontage of a person's house is to be cleared by him under the police direction.

1733. Mr. *Bentinck.*] I understand you to say that there was a failure on behalf of the contractors to remove the snow on the occasion which has been referred to?—Yes, they did not perform their contract, and the next week they were fined something approaching 1,000*l.* for not doing so.

1734. And were they made to pay the amount?—Yes; the Commission took care of that; they have the power of deducting it from their contracts.

1735. You had no refusal on their parts to act, had you?—No; the whole of the contractors put an increased staff both of sweepers and of horses on to the carriage-ways.

1736. Are you aware that in St. George's parish, in some of the districts the contractors refuse to take their horses out in the cold?—I think I heard something of the sort; I know that one contractor told me that he would almost sooner bear a fine than submit his good horses to the strain and the exposure.

1737. But you had no such conduct as that on the part of your contractors?—None at all; every one of them did a great deal.

1738. Do you think they did their best?—I did not call it doing their best, neither did the Commissioners. They did not do nearly so much as they ought to have done.

1739. And, therefore, because the Commissioners held that opinion, they fined them?—Yes, the Commissioners fined them 1,000*l.*, or thereabouts, and moreover they instructed me to procure additional carts and horses and men; and I applied to other contractors for more carts and horses, and then they were put on to supplement the efforts of the contractors, and all those costs and charges were likewise deducted from the regular contract.

1740. What was the expense to which the Commissioners were put?—It was not very large, for we had great difficulty in getting carts.

1741. Was the expense covered by the fines?—It was deducted in addition to the fines.

1742. So that the Commissioners were put to no expense?—The Commissioners were put to no expense whatever.

1743. It fell entirely on the contractors?—It fell entirely on the contractors.

1744. I am bound to say, from my personal observation during those days, that I thought the snow was cleared away much more efficiently in the City than elsewhere?—The streets of the City I think, considering the enormous traffic that passes through them (though I do not wish to speak vauntingly) were cleaner than any other part of the metropolis. I know that the cost of cleansing and clearing dust away, has risen from 8,000*l.* to 23,000*l.* annually in the City alone. Within the City jurisdiction the streets at the present time are not only swept, but, before they are swept, they are watered so as to get off the greatest quantity of dust and mud daily.

1745. We have had great complaints at the west end of London as to the mud which arises from a deficiency in the sweeping of the streets; have you had similar experience to that in the City?—The mud arises from defective cleansing of the streets; but the difficulty of cleansing the streets is very great indeed. The difficulty of getting off the refuse which accumulates during the day is very great, and hence, in the City, the streets are watered before being swept, so as to soften the mud. During the last few months in the City we have been washing with jet and hose the whole line, from Cheapside down to the Mansion House, with the view of ascertaining whether that is not a preferable mode of cleansing the streets.

1746. Have you any complaint to make of the contractors with regard to cleansing the streets of mud?—They are fined constantly for not doing the work sufficiently well.

1747. But, upon the whole, you think they do their duty as well as you expect?—I am not satisfied with them, I must confess; but it is a question which must be viewed relatively. Absolute cleanliness is all but impossible; and if you find that the streets in the City are considerably cleaner than they are elsewhere, and as clean as they really are, I think we may consider that the streets in the City are kept in a sufficiently good condition upon the average of the year.

1748. In your judgment, do you consider that the contractors are kept up to their work as well as they can be?—They are kept up to their work, I think, as well as they can be. The mode of keeping them up to their work is by fining them, which is done repeatedly upon any dereliction of duty. Still, I should like to see the streets of the City washed; that is the best way to keep them in the cleanest possible condition; but I am afraid that 23,000*l.* a-year will be required, and a few more thousands on to it to do so, besides causing some collateral inconveniences. If you keep the streets very clean indeed, then in dry weather they are exceedingly slippery. Again, exceedingly clean, they are more noisy; that is noticeable in Cheapside now, as compared with other streets, owing to its being washed. Then, again, if very clean, the wear and tear of the pavements increases. With regard to the sewers, the washing leaves them as clean as they were before, and, I think, if the streets were washed daily, the sewers would be cleaner.

1749. Do you take any special care to keep the crossings clean?—No; but within these last one or two years it is very rarely indeed that the main streets of the City are not so clean that you cannot

cannot cross without much inconvenience. They are all in the City subject to a second sweeping by a machine if mud rises in the course of the day by rain coming on.

1750. Do you think it possible for the local authorities to have the crossings better swept than they are?—Yes; they can do it if they employ persons to do it. There is no difficulty about it.

1751. But not without considerable expense?—It is a pure question of labour and additional expense, but nothing more.

1752. Have you jurisdiction over the cab-stands?—No.

1753. Who have jurisdiction over them?—The Court of Aldermen and the Commissioner of the City Police.

1754. Can you tell the Committee why it is that in the City no tables of fares are exhibited at the cab stands?—I cannot tell you.

1755. You know that it is so?—I do not know that it is so; but now that the honourable Member mentions it, I do not recollect that there are any tables of fares.

1756. Mr. *Bazley.*] Is the contract for the removal of snow a separate charge from the cleansing?—No; the contract is for general cleansing, removing dust and refuse, and watering.

1757. In the great fall of snow last winter, do you suppose that the contractors were not remunerated for their labour?—I am unable to answer that question. The probability is that the contractors in determining the amount at which they undertake the work always consider the contingency of snow, and leave sufficient margin. I apprehend that they do not expect that the Commissioners will be so severe upon them as they have been; and I have very little doubt that in the ensuing contracts they will increase the amount that they put down for the contingency of snow.

1758. In the application of water for the cleansing of streets would there not be a very great waste of water?—There will be an enormous consumption of water for washing the streets.

1759. Would it not possibly diminish the general supply if you diverted water from culinary and household purposes for cleansing the streets?—That will entirely depend upon the sources of supply at the command of the companies.

1760. Have they adequate sources of supply?—I think that before many years London will run exceedingly short of water for ordinary purposes, because the consumption is increasing.

1761. Perhaps you are aware that there is already a very extensive waste of water in the City?—There is an enormous waste of water all over the world. At least half of the water I should say throughout the metropolis is wasted.

1762. Mr. *Tite.*] You mean the present supply, do you not?—Yes. If you take the mean daily supply in London I believe a very large proportion of it is wasted, but it does not approach to anything like what it does in America. When I was in New York I found they had run up to 90 gallons per head per diem with a constant supply, whereas we have not reached 30 gallons per head per diem in London.

1763. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] How many miles of street and places in the metropolis are there in the City of London which have to be cleansed?—There are 50 miles of thoroughfare of all sorts large and small. Dividing it arbitrarily there are about seven miles of main streets, and about 18 miles of collateral streets; and the rest consists of narrow thoroughfares and footways, some of which have nevertheless an enormous traffic, although they are only footways.

1764. As to the snow; I presume this year was much beyond the average fall of snow?—There was a fall very nearly the same one day last year; but people are always apt to think that the last fall which occurred was the largest. My observations go to show indeed that it was rather less than last year.

1765. But what was it upon the average of 10 years?—I have held my office for 21 years, and I do not think we have had such heavy falls more than about five times in that time, but I am speaking quite from recollection.

1766. You have stated, have you not, that it would be perfectly impossible to remove in the same day such an amount of snow as fell on the day to which you alluded?—I think so, having reference to the men and the vehicles that it is possible to engage. The Commissioners have not the power to compel persons to send out their carts and horses.

1767. Do you think the Commissioners would be more active in the discharge of their duties, if a power were given to any inhabitant of a street to summon the Commission before a magistrate, if he thought the snow before his house was not removed sufficiently quickly?—I really do not think it would; I think it would have a tendency to disgust persons from undertaking the position. Persons who undertake those public offices, do so for the benefit of the community, and are not paid for it. Sometimes they are a little too economical, which is their principal fault, but they are there to guard against unwise expenditure, and giving the power of annoying them upon perhaps what might be found to be trifles after all, would tend to prevent the better classes from undertaking the office of Commissioner.

1768. You do not think it would probably be beneficial to the public, if the police or the inhabitants of a street were authorised to summon the Commissioners of Sewers before a magistrate, in case snow was not removed sufficiently quickly?—I do not think it would.

1769. Do you think it would be possible that the ashes and dust throughout the City of London could be removed from every house daily, say, at nine o'clock in the morning?—Yes, given one condition; and that is, that no one should have a dust-bin, or fixed receptacle for dust in his house. If I had the power, I would make it imperative that everybody should have a moveable receptacle, and that everybody should be compelled to bring down that receptacle to the door to the dustman, who should call daily.

1770. Mr. *Tite.*] That is the French system, is it not?—No; they throw it out into the carriage-ways, or they put the pans down outside for people to break their necks over. They have a great quantity of vegetable refuse in Paris. If you had walked about the streets in Paris at all hours, as I have done, you would have seen a great quantity of refuse and ashes, principally wood ashes; although the consumption

Mr. *W. Haywood.*

8 April 1867.

of coal is increasing greatly in Paris, and is perceptibly affecting the atmosphere.

1771. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You are perfectly conversant with the system which is adopted in Paris; do you think that their system of cleansing the streets, and of general management could be imported into this country with advantage? — That really resolves itself into the question, whether we could adopt the system upon which the cleansing system of Paris depends. All men in official positions like myself have a tendency rather to like the *sic volo sic jubeo* mode of acting; but you cannot introduce the system here, unless you make the police potential. It is all founded in Paris upon the great power lodged in the police and other officials.

1772. *Chairman.*] You would be practically without control if you were an officer in Paris, and you would yourself be the authority to perform the duty?— That is practically the case throughout every department of the public service in Paris. The system is one of a graduated chain of responsibility. One officer is responsible to a superior officer, who is himself responsible to another superior officer, and all are ultimately responsible to the Prefect of the Seine. I know tolerably intimately the organisation and general arrangement and management of Paris, and a great many other towns of Europe, and in France it is as I have stated.

1773. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Do you think that the streets of Paris, with the exception of the Boulevards, are in a better condition than the streets in the City of London?—The streets of Paris are in a very high condition of cleanliness, and the roads in an excellent condition; but it is done at a most enormous cost. I had occasion to inquire into that a few years ago, and I found that the cost of maintaining the carriageway of the Pont du Carrousel, which had, at that time, a traffic of something like 10,000 vehicles over it daily, was nearly three times the cost of maintaining London Bridge, in proportion to the area. That is the principal bridge in Paris, not far from the end of the Rue de la Paix. I am speaking of the repairs of the pavements as well as cleansing.

1774. *Chairman.*] Can you give the traffic comparatively with reference to any London street?—At that time, the vehicular traffic over the Pont du Carrousel was about 10,000 vehicles a day; and London Bridge has about 17,000 a day. I am speaking of the busy hours of the day; and the cost of the repair of the French bridge, the Pont du Carrousel, was something like 7 *s.* per square yard per annum, whereas the cost of London Bridge was not above 2 *s.* 9 *d.* per square yard per annum. There is no city in the world, that I am aware of, which has anything approaching the traffic that exists in the City of London; and when I say that I speak with a knowledge of nearly every metropolis in Europe, and a good many towns in the United States of America The traffic of the Boulevards is inferior, or was inferior, to that of London Bridge.

1775. In any comparison as to the efficiency of the cleansing of the streets, regard must be had to the quantity of traffic that is passing over them?—Yes, and there is another thing: climate has much to do with the cleansing of streets; those who know the southern towns of Europe will know that a large amount of nameless filth is perpetually deposited in all corners; that filth two or three hours afterwards is soon dessicated by the sun, and has disappeared, but the humidity of the English atmosphere is such that instead of filth and refuse dessicating and diminishing, it accumulates and amplifies; it gathers bulk and increases by the moisture which is added to it. We have nearly always three wet days a week in London, and dirt and refuse is churned and increased in bulk, so that the difficulty of removal is increased enormously. It is utterly impossible with a moist atmosphere to obtain that degree of cleanliness which you can in a dry climate, with the same amount of traffic.

1776. Do you consider that the local authorities bring to bear upon the construction of the streets a reasonable amount of skill, so as to prevent the mud from working upwards?—It is a mistake to suppose that in a well-made pavement mud works up at all. I do not know a street in the City where any mud comes through; it could not, for this reason, that if it did it would imply that the subsoil was perpetually carried away, and a dislocation of the whole pavement must ensue rapidly. I would rather confine my observations to my own district, but I assume that outside the City they take the same measures as we do.

1777. Do you know, as a matter of fact, whether streets are preserved in the other parts of the metropolis up to that standard?—I do not believe that you would find the main streets subject to such traffic anywhere in the metropolis in so high a condition as they are in the City, taking them as a whole. I have power of ordering the repairs myself, with the direction of the Commissioners whenever needed, and I think you will very rarely find any one of the main thoroughfares of the City which is not in a good condition. I have had the engineers from many parts of Europe come to consult me about pavements, and I am now being consulted about the formation of the pavements for the City of New York, and therefore I may assume that, though streets may be behind the very highest standard of perfection, yet they are sufficiently good to excite the remark of people from other parts.

1778. Do you consider that there is any ill-judged economy on the part of the local authorities in making the main streets, so as not to make them in the first instance sufficiently solid?—I cannot give any opinion about the other authorities, but I know that in forming a new street, you cannot spend too much money upon it at first to do it well.

1779. Do you know relatively whether your streets maintain their repair longer than other streets in the main thoroughfares of the metropolis which are subject to great traffic?—I know that at least they maintain them as long, and I know that no other streets have the same amount of traffic over them.

1780. But you cannot say that your streets within the City maintain their level surface longer than other streets of the metropolis?—I am sure that they maintain it quite as long, and I have the impression that they maintain it considerably longer.

1781. I wanted to know whether, as a matter of fact, ill-considered economy is manifested by the local authorities in the metropolis in dealing with that question?—I cannot answer the question.

1782. Do

1782. Do you think it desirable that any control should be exercised over them as to the mode in which they pave the streets, with a view to the uniform maintenance of the main thoroughfares?—They are assumed to have competent officers to advise them.

1783. Do you think it desirable that there should be any general control with a view to the uniform character of the main thoroughfares?—I do not know that it is at all essential. They are not any of them maintained in so indifferent a condition as that much fault is to be found with them. Some are much better than others undoubtedly, but still they are all maintained in such a condition that the public can travel over them with safety and with tolerable comfort.

1784. Do you think they could not be improved if any greater knowledge or intelligence were brought to bear as regards the insurance of the proper construction and maintenance of the streets?—I think in the macadamised roads much might be done, but not as regards the pavements. With respect to the pavements, nearly the whole of the metropolis has followed the City as a model. The reduction in the size of the stone, the formation of the pavement with a foundation, and the whole system, I believe, has been taken from the City throughout the whole metropolis.

1785. Do you think that the local Boards exhibit a readiness to profit by any experience which is gained in practical paving in the metropolis?—It is variable, but I think as a rule they do.

1786. What we are endeavouring to arrive at is, whether it is desirable to make any alterations with a view to more efficiency in the local management of those matters, and the Committee would be glad to have any suggestion from you in that respect?—I am not prepared to answer any questions upon that point.

1787. Mr. *Tite.*] Will you state whether you have any macadamised streets now in the City?—There is a small portion.

1788. Where is that?—In Finsbury Circus.

1789. Is that the only place?—That is the only place.

1790. With regard to the paving of a macadamised street in the metropolis, do you think that is good economy; take Parliament-street, for instance, at the present moment?—No, it is not good economy. When the traffic comes to a certain quantity, the wear and tear upon a macadamised road becomes so heavy that it is economy to pave it; but the economy depends entirely upon the extent of the traffic. There are a great many miles of street in the metropolis which now, for economical reasons, ought to be paved with granite.

1791. Would it not be desirable to have some central authority who should be able to control the vestries, and have the charge of such matters, and put an end to something which is so exceedingly inconvenient and undesirable as a macadamised road, and require them to pave it?—A great many people prefer a macadamised road, and are willing to pay for it; for instance, the whole of the shopkeepers of Regent-street prefer it.

1792. Why do they prefer it?—Simply because it is safer for carriages to drive over, and equestrians can take their exercise over it with less danger, and for the largest portion of the year there is infinitely less noise; but I have always looked upon it that the proper way in such cases would be to allow those inhabitants who wish to maintain so expensive a road surface to have the privilege of paying the expenses themselves. Such roads can be maintained in a very fine condition with great care; for instance, there is nothing in the world equal to the macadamised roads in Paris.

1793. Are they not asphalted as well?—They have been largely introducing asphalte of late years; but I see, by the journals, that there are great complaints of the slipperiness of it. In some of the streets of the metropolis, in certain kinds of weather, if you had such asphalting, no horse would stand upon it; you would have hundreds of horses down every day.

1794. But in the main it is broken stone in the Boulevards, is it not, being sometimes rolled, and sometimes asphalted, and having sometimes other materials mixed up with it?—They have tried the broken material mixed with asphalt, but it has not been so successful or so largely introduced as the ordinary macadamisation. They keep up their roads with incredible care, and at large cost. They place men at intervals over the whole road to keep it in good condition.

1795. Would it not be desirable, in your opinion, that there should be some authority to go into those questions and consider what was reasonable and best for the whole of the metropolis; would you leave it with the vestries as it is now?—If it is desirable to annihilate anything like local jurisdiction, the most efficacious way of doing it would be to put a superior power over the local authorities, as the tendency invariably is to deaden the sense of responsibility in the local authorities when that superior power is erected over them; it is, in fact, only a step towards the annihilation of the local authority. There can be always found some reasonable excuse for lodging an absolute power somewhere. Then, again, it would entirely depend upon what that central power was, whether it could be effective or not. If it was to be a central power, composed of very nearly the same elements as those of which the local bodies themselves are composed, it is not easy to show that they would have superior governing powers than the local bodies themselves.

1796. But they could hear both sides of the question?—So could the local authorities.

1797. The appellate jurisdiction would give a hearing to everybody?—I am not sure of that. I believe the tendency of the superior power would be to find reasons for absorbing all the power of the local bodies. I am speaking with the broad political principle involved in this matter, in my view, and not giving opinion as to what would be the best simply in relation to the works to be executed; for upon that point I have views of my own which might not be received with approbation by the local bodies, and certainly would not by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

1798. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You have stated the mode and the manner in which the City of London has been cleansed, and the snow removed, do you think that if there had been a central authority, such as the Metropolitan Board of Works, under which all the vestries and parishes in the City of London had been placed,

Mr. *W. Haywood.*

8 April 1867.

the City of London would have been better cleansed, and better managed, than it has been under the present system?—No, I do not think that it would; I state this broadly: that in respect of its sewerage, and improvements in the sewerage, and in respect of the pavements and improvements in pavements, the City of London has been at most times in advance of the rest of the metropolis. I could go into detail, and prove to the Committee that nearly all the improvements in those departments have commenced in the City; and with regard to its cleansing and the removal of the dust, although it may not be up to the standard many persons would desire, and indeed not up to my standard, yet it still has been, and is, in advance of the rest of the metropolis.

1799. Do you, in your own mind, see the possibility of forming a central authority, under which the City of London should be better served in these matters than it is at present?—I can see my way to a far superior central authority for the metropolis than at present exists.

1800. *Chairman.*] Perhaps you will inform the Committee what is your view as to getting a better central authority?—I hope that I may be excused from doing so, because I did not come prepared to give such opinion. My own idea goes to a federation of municipalities (that is generally my view) of which the City of London should be the chief, the head, as it is by position and by other reasons.

1801. Mr. *Bentinck.*] You have some wooden pavements left in the City, have you not?—Yes.

1802. Do you approve of wooden pavements?—I see no objection to them.

1803. In Gracechurch-street are there some, or are there not?—There are.

1804. But in Gracechurch-street there is a considerable incline, is there not?—No, it is very level.

1805. I pass along that street very often, and have constantly seen accidents happening there?—There are no more accidents on the wooden pavements than in any other parts of the City. Wooden pavements are a very expensive luxury, like macademised roads where there is a large traffic. There is no reason why wooden pavements should not be as safe for horses as stone pavements if they are kept in proper condition; if, as in the City, they are gravelled and kept very clean. There are some conditions of the atmosphere under which wooden pavements are much less slippery than any other pavements; for instance, when it is very wet, and again when it is very dry they are less slippery.

1806. Then you would consider, to use your own expression, that a wooden pavement is an expensive luxury?—It is an expensive luxury, and it is paid for as such, because in the City, where a community is desirous of having wooden pavement, it is the custom of the Commission to estimate the difference between the cost of stone and the cost of wood, and to ask the inhabitants to pay the difference of cost, which they do, provided always that good special reason can be given for allowing the wood to be used at all.

1807. *Chairman.*] You would allow special pavements if they did not interrupt the general communication of the metropolis, to be laid down at the expense of the houses connected with them?—I should, where any special reason can be given for it, as there are for all the places in which wood pavements are allowed to be laid down in the City. It is laid down in the Old Bailey, for instance, simply to lessen the noise in the Criminal Courts, but there must be some limitation to this principle.

1808. Will you explain a little more fully what you meant by a federation of Corporations with the City, for the purpose of having a good central government?—I should simply constitute municipalities around the City.

1809. How would those be federated with the City, so as to make one central government?—They might send delegates for general purposes to meet in the City, that being the natural centre of the municipalities of the metropolis.

1810. That is to say, that the City and all the other people would send delegates to the common Corporation in the City?—To a common Board for general purposes.

1811. General purposes being those purposes which could not be conveniently considered to be either special or local?—Exactly; those purposes which were of a general character and were likely consequently to affect the whole community of the metropolis.

1812. In that case the aggregate Corporation would be a new Corporation in the City, would it not, or do you mean that they should join the existing Corporation, and that the existing Corporation should be an aggregate Corporation?—The question as to whether the Corporation should be limited by its existing constitution is one which I would not enter upon. At all events, corporations having similar powers to those which the Corporation of the City of London has, I think, ought to be constituted in the Metropolis. They would of course supersede those smaller local Boards, many of which are too small, I think, for the convenient transaction of business, and indeed for the economical transaction of business in many respects. If I could go into detail, I could show you how that would be so with regard to pavements, &c., but I am really not prepared to give the Committee my opinion very definitely upon this point.

1813. Then, do I understand you that the district corporations, if I may use the phrase, and the City Corporation would all upon a common basis elect a supreme Corporation?—They would select a Board for special purposes affecting the whole metropolis.

1814. Is not that exactly what is now done in the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—It very much partakes of that character.

1815. Then you would approve generally of the present character of the Metropolitan Board of Works without regard to the particular mode in which it is elected, or the particular number of persons in it?—Some such Board must be elected for the whole of the Metropolis, no doubt, unless you have a *triumvirate* or *quinquevirate* of paid professional men.

1816. Could you give the Committee any information as to your view of uniting some of the smaller Boards, and the economy which would result from it?—It is convenient to have tolerably large districts for the purposes of contracting and for the execution of general works, but then again must not be simply a question of area. To begin with, the City of London is but one square mile, measured superficially, but that is, of course

ve

very different from a square mile taken at Bow Common or at the end of Western Kensington.

1817. What are the elements that you would take into account in arriving at a convenient district; would they be population, number of houses, length of streets, and area?—I think that rateable value is about the best mode you could have of arriving at it; I do not know anything better; it is the fairest indication of the wealth and importance and necessities of the district; and, although it may be a rough one, I think it is the best.

1818. But is it a convenient mode of arriving at the area for local administration?—There may be other conditions.

1819. Having regard to the fact that it is chiefly for cleansing the surface of the streets, and keeping them fit for the public, and examining into the state of the houses, for the purposes of health, would not the length of the streets and the number of houses be a fair criterion?—I think the rateable value would pretty well give that.

1820. Would not the effect of taking the rateable value as the basis be, that a small district of very large houses, which required no supervision at all, would be an area equal to a larger district, with a vast number of very small houses, which required a great deal of supervision, and would not the trouble in one case be very much greater than in the other?—There must be inequality in some way, but I think the rateable value would be the best basis.

1821. Would it not exaggerate the deficiencies to the greatest possible degree, if you took a parish like St. George's, Hanover-square, for example, and a district in London of a poorer character, but equal in rateable value, to St. George's, Hanover-square?—I fancy there is more work to do in St. George's, Hanover-square, and more trouble about sewerage and streets, and greater difficulties about lighting and cleansing, and all those functions which those Boards now exercise, and which the municipalities would have to exercise. Wherever there is an aggregation of expensive houses like that, there is always, or generally speaking there is, consequent upon it a large traffic. There may be less supervision of poor houses, and less trouble in a sanitary point of view, but I nevertheless think that rateable value is about the surest basis.

1822. Mr. *Mill.*] There would be also a much smaller length of street in the highly-rated districts, would there not?—I think not. You will find that in the highly-rated districts the houses are very close together indeed; and the streets in those districts bear a very large proportion to the whole area. In the case of the City of London, in a square mile there are nearly 50 miles of thoroughfares, and probably something like 25 per cent. of the whole area is street. I think in St. George's, Hanover-square, you would find a very great length of street in relation to the whole area; and those streets are of a very important nature, as regards the whole public, and not only as regards that locality.

1823. Mr. *Tite.*] The Committee have heard from the witness who was last examined, that the Metropolitan Board of Works have a power over the main sewers in the City of London; is that so?—They have.

1824. Has that led to any clashing, or to any inconvenience, as between the two departments, Mr. Bazalgetti's and yours?—There have been differences on money matters once or twice, but the Board has an absolute power to do as it likes; and all we have to do is to obey the Board in respect of main sewers. They have the power of calling any sewer a main sewer, and therefore they could cut a difficulty very short if it arose.

1825. But has it arisen?—I have not in my recollection any cases in which it has arisen. Whenever they wish to repair a sewer, they serve a notice upon the Commissioners that they are going to take up the street to repair it.

1826. *Chairman.*] Do you recollect what was the number of Commissioners in the Commission of Sewers before the increase of their number took place?—I think it was 83 or 84.

1827. Do you know why it was increased to 101?—The Corporation thought that a larger proportion of the Common Council members should be upon the Commission.

1828. Mr. *Sandford.*] You have spoken of the comparative advantages of central bodies and local bodies; which system do you think has the least jobbing in it?—The larger bodies defeat jobbing undoubtedly; I believe it is a much more easy thing to job with small numbers than with large numbers.

1829. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Do you mean with larger areas?—The greater the number of members there are on any Board (I am addressing myself purely to the honourable Member's question as to jobbing, and without reference to any other points of consideration), undoubtedly the more difficult it is to effect a job; if you want a nice, compact, comfortable job, it is to be done by a Board composed of three or four men; it is not to be done by one of 100 or 200 men. There is sure to be somebody who cannot be won over to the job, or somebody who will find it out, and expose it.

1830. *Chairman.*] Your view is, that a large public body superintending the executive detail, is most likely to prevent jobbing in the detail?—I think so; I think the larger the number, the less is the probability of a job, although a job is one of those terms of which I sometimes ask myself whether I know the meaning or not.

1831. I understand it to be your view, that if the body entrusted with executive detail is sufficiently small for the purpose of doing the work efficiently, there is no inconvenience in having a larger Board, with a general superintendence over it?—As to carrying out the business by a large number, that is quite another affair.

1832. If you have a sufficiently small executive body, such as a committee to carry out the current business of the conduct of affairs, then is there any inconvenience in having a large body for the general superintendence?—No, but large bodies do not carry out works with that uniformity or rapidity that small bodies do.

1833. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Have you found any difficulty, from the largeness of the number of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City of London, in carrying out the works in the City?—The works have been carried out, but it would perhaps be better if the Commission was smaller in numbers, than it now is.

1834. Mr. *Sandford.*] Which do you suppose would be the more effective for a local purpose, the superintendence of a vestry, or of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I think that for all general

Mr. *W. Haywood.*

8 April 1867.

general district purposes, the local body is the proper body to be charged with the duty.

1835. Have you heard any charges of jobbing brought against those local bodies at all?—I have never heard a charge brought against them, though I have heard imputations of that kind made upon them; but I have heard imputations of jobbing against the House of Commons and the House of Peers. I have also heard such imputations against the Corporation; but I have been their officer for 21 years, and I never knew of a job; that is all I have to say. It is such a common form of imputation, so indefinite and so convenient and so safe, that I never knew of any Board in existence against which it had not been brought at some time or other.

1836. You never heard of any jobs with regard to contracts?—All I can say is, that the forms which are adopted in the departments of the Corporation with which I am connected, preclude jobbing as far as it is possible for forms to do so. Nearly all is done by public advertisement. There also are regulations by which nobody connected with the Corporation can be a party to taking or receiving money from it in rsspect of contract. There are clauses in Acts of Parliament which interdict officers from doing so, and in fact would annihilate officers, if they were known to do anything of the sort; and there are what I consider to be very self-denying ordinances of the Corporation (I am not aware what the practice is elsewhere), because neither a brother nor father, nor a son of a member of the Common Council is competent to become an officer, nor is any Common Councilman, until he has left the Council for at least a year.

1837. Then people have to fall back on their cousins?—I do not know whether or not the proscription extends to that degree of consanguinity, but I do not think many of the officers even have cousins members of the Corporation, or are any relation to them whatever.

1838. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Have you had any disputes with your neighbouring local authorities with reference to the paving of streets which might be partly in one jurisdiction and partly in another; for instance, with reference to Chancery-lane, one part of which is in the City, the residue being in local parishes?—I do not recollect any. It is a very inconvenient thing, as a principle, that the divisional line between two districts should be in the centre of a street.

1839. That is the case there, is it not?—That is so in some places; it is so at one or two places on the boundary of the City, but it has always been arranged in this way: that whereas the street was for the district purposes divided longitudinally; by arrangement, for paving purposes, they have always divided it crossways. We have ascertained the relative areas, and each Board has done the work in its own area. It only requires something like good feeling on the part of the local authorities. As to paving a street in halves longitudinally, it is simply ridiculous to attempt it.

1840. It has happened in St. James's-street, and elsewhere, has it not?—It is a very preposterous thing if it has.

Mr. John Francis Bontems, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. F. Bontems.*

1841. *Chairman.*] What are you?—I am a Member of the Common Council of the Corporation of London, a Vestryman of Islington, and a Member of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London; but my remarks will apply chiefly to the Metropolitan Board of Works and to the vestries, and also to the proposed municipalities, and not so much to the City.

1842. Do you think that there are any defects in the present arrangements for the vestries and the Metropolitan Board of Works? — I think there are.

1843. Will you state them very briefly?—Beginning with the Metropolitan Board of Works, I think one evil is, that the chairman of that Board is not amenable to or the representative of any constituency. I think that circumstance induces a preference on his part, to large public works over any local improvements which might be suggested; and, I think that it leads to his putting his own opinions in abeyance and giving way to the opinions of others, perhaps of the Government or of Parliament. I may mention as an instance, that in the first Report of this Committee, an abstract of which has been published by the Metropolitan Board of Works, Sir John Thwaites stated that he was of opinion that the direct taxation of the metropolis had reached an extent beyond which he did not think it reasonable to go; and yet in the face of that opinion we hear of a proposed improvement rate which would increase that direct taxation. Another instance is this: in another part of that Report Sir John Thwaites seems to have given an opinion that the Imperial funds ought to bear a portion of the taxation for the very large improvements which are carried out at the West-end. When he is asked, "We may take it as your opinion, that if Parliament would sanction a taxation of those who are best able to bear it in the metropolis, equal to the amount of taxation which is put upon those who are least able to bear it, sufficient funds could be raised for the purpose of carrying out the improvements which, in the judgment of your Board, are required?" And he replies, "I think so: of course, I am giving up the point which I have up to this time maintained, namely, that the metropolis has been more neglected than any capital in Europe. I wish it to be distinctly understood, in giving my answers, that I think the metropolis capable of bearing the taxation if properly proportioned; still, I do hold the principle to be sound, that in all European capitals contributions are made from time to time from the Imperial taxation to the improvement of the capital." But he waives that point, and not having any constituency to be responsible to, I think his consistency in this respect is not so well preserved as it otherwise might be.

1844. Then is it your view that the chairman should be a member of the Board elected by some constituency to that Board?—I think so, just as a member of the Government must be the representative of some constituency. I say this with great respect personally to Sir John Thwaites. With regard to the other members of the Metropolitan Board of Works, I think that it is an evil that they are not responsible directly to the ratepayers; in fact, they need not be elected by any ratepayers;

ratepayers; the vestries are not bound to appoint members of their own body who have been elected by the ratepayers; they might appoint other persons who have not been elected at all.

1845. Provided that they are qualified to be members of the Board of Works?—Yes.

1846. Do you think that they should be directly elected?—I think that they should be directly elected by the ratepayers. I may mention, as an instance of the necessity for that, that we find that the members of the Board of Works do not answer quickly to their responsibility when they are appealed to from the different vestries; and hence every time any public question arises upon which we want the Board to take action or to cease from taking action, there is immediately a delegation appointed from all the vestries to urge on or to oppose the Board. That, I think, would not be necessary if there was a proper union between the vestries and their representatives at the Board; and I think that the difficulty would be met if there were more frequent elections and more direct representation. A case occurred a few years ago, of a proposed grant to Mr. Bazalgette of 10,000 *l.* in one sum by the Metropolitan Board; the vestries were one and all opposed to that grant, but they found it very difficult to bring action to bear upon the Board; they did ultimately do so, and the idea was dropped; but it was attended with a great deal of trouble. Then I may say, on the gas question, that the gas consumers have been complaining ever since the year 1860 of the state of the gas question; but the Metropolitan Board has never taken up the question. The parishes have had to appoint delegates to do it for them, because their legitimate representatives did not attend to it. They have taken it up now, after the Corporation of London has led the way, and after the question has been considered before a Parliamentary Committee and a report made upon it, and when the case has been proved to be so bad, I think it ought to have done so long ago.

1847. Do you know, as a fact, that any applications were made to the Metropolitan Board of Works by the district boards to take up the gas question before the Report of the Select Committee?—I am not aware that any such applications were made; I think that the vestries frequently took action by themselves; but I am not aware that they appealed to the Metropolitan Board.

1848. Do you know whether, with regard to your own vestry, it is a fact that when the Committee was appointed last Session to inquire into the question of the gas supply, your Board had no communication whatever with the Metropolitan Board of Works upon the subject whilst the Committee were sitting?—I am not aware that there was any communication; I think that our vestry was satisfied that the Corporation had taken up the question, and were doing the best which could be done; and all we did was to send a petition in support of the inquiry, and to ask our representatives in Parliament to support it.

1849. But you made no application to the Metropolitan Board of Works to take any part before the Committee with a view of protecting the interests of the inhabitants of your district?—I do not think that we did; but my idea is that the Metropolitan Board of Works ought to have led the way, and not to have waited to be asked.

1550. Do you know whether any of the other Boards applied to the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I am not aware that they did. Then, I think, that the Metropolitan Board of Works pays a great deal for expenses, as compared with the amount which it spends in improvements out of the general rate. For instance, during last year I find that its general rate produced about 180,000 *l.*, and out of that only 21,000 *l.* was expended in improvements, all the rest being disbursed for expenses of one kind or other. I have not seen the details of those expenses, but I have seen the statement that only 21,000 *l.* was the amount expended for improvements.

1851. But have you taken the trouble to inform yourself at all about the matter as to how they spent the money?—I thought that the fact was sufficient for me; that out of a fund intended for the general improvement of the metropolis, amounting to 180,000 *l.*, only 21,000 *l.* was expended for that purpose.

1852. You do not know how the rest of the money was spent?—I do not know all the details. It was partly spent in salaries, I presume.

1853. Have you taken the trouble to inform yourself how it was spent?—I have not had any documents from which I could get the information.

1854. Have you not read the Report of the Committee upon the finances of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I have not; I am aware that the Metropolitan Board of Works sends out an account of its expenditure, but I cannot, from that Report, ascertain the details of the expenditure.

1855. Lord *John Manners.*] How do you arrive at the fact which you have given about the 21,000 *l.*?—I think the statement is made in the Report which is sent to us, that 21,000 *l.* has been expended in improvements during the year.

1856. *Chairman.*] Do they not give you any other items except 21,000 *l.* for improvements?—No, it is not stated what the rest is spent in. I think that that is one of the complaints made against the Metropolitan Board of Works, that we have not any report of the details of its expenditure.

1857. Then would your view be altered if you were informed that according to their account their establishment charges for the year 1866 amounted to 17,000 *l.*, including compensation allowances made to officers of the old Commission?—That would not explain away the fact that only 21,000 *l.* was spent for improvements.

1858. But as regards the extravagant establishment of the Metropolitan Board, would it alter your opinion?—I do not mean to say that all the rest of the money was spent upon the establishment; I merely say that it was not spent upon improvements, and that no account has been furnished as to the way in which it has been spent.

1859. Are you quite sure that no account has been furnished, or is it that you have not seen any account?—I have read the Report which was sent to me as a member of the vestry, professing to be the Report of the Metropolitan Board of Works for the year ending 1866, and I can find no such account. Then, as to the parish of Islington; since the Metropolitan Board of Works was founded the parish of Islington has contributed 51,000 *l.* towards the general rate of

Mr. *J. F. Bontems.*

8 April 1867.

the Board, and there is a precept, I think now, for 8,000 *l.* or 10,000 *l.* more for this year; and the whole amount which it has received back for its local improvements, is 620 *l.*

1860. Is not the parish of Islington an outlying parish, the inhabitants of which come into the metropolis?—It is a parish containing now nearly 200,000 inhabitants, and under this system only 620 *l.* has been spent upon local improvements. There were two sums, one of 500 *l.*, and one of 120 *l.*, and yet we have sent up 51,000 *l* as our contribution to the general rate of the Board.

1861. But have the inhabitants of Islington no interest in being able to get into the metropolis, and through the metropolis?—Yes, but they have a stronger interest in local improvements; and if they had the management of their own funds they would find opportunities of spending them more to their own advantage.

1862. Do not they, in common with the other inhabitants, swell the thoroughfares in the centre of London with their traffic?—No doubt of it.

1863. Do not a great many people who transact business in the central part of London, and who come into the central part of London, live at Islington?—No doubt.

1864. Therefore they have an interest, have they not, in common with other parts of the metropolis, in having the main thoroughfare in a commodious condition?—No doubt, and perhaps they should contribute a fair proportion towards it, but we think that this is a very large sum to contribute when we get nothing back. Then, I think the Metropolitan Board is very slow in carrying out its works. I may mention that Finsbury Park, which will be the nearest park to the parish of Islington, though it will not be within the parish, the formation of which was entrusted to the Metropolitan Board 11 years ago, has not been commenced yet. About the street from Blackfriars Bridge to the Mansion House I think enough has been already said, but I consider that work has been very much delayed, though not quite so long as Finsbury Park. Then, I think that the Metropolitan Board of Works seldom carries out its works in the way which is desired by the inhabitants of the locality most interested; and that, I think, is caused by the jealousy of 45 members coming from 39 different districts, who cannot agree as to the works to be done in any given locality; they can only agree upon the great works entrusted to them by Parliament, and which they join to carry out; but as to the local works, they do not seem at all to study the wishes of the inhabitants. I may mention the Finsbury Park again. When the Bill was obtained for the construction of the Finsbury Park, it was provided that 250 acres should be purchased; but on account of the unwillingness of the Metropolitan Board to incur such an expense for a particular part of the metropolis, that number of acres has been reduced below 120; and in order still further to reduce the cost, it has been decided to take away two of the best sides of the park, the one fronting the Seven Sisters-road, and the other fronting the Great Northern Railway, to put them out for building sites; no doubt reducing the cost of the park to the Metropolitan Board, but very much injuring it in the estimation of those for whose use it is intended. Then, recently the parish of Islington wanted to borrow 35,000 *l.*, to pave with granite the Caledonian-road and the New North-road, two of the leading roads in the parish. They found that granite paving would last 30 years or more, and they were anxious in borrowing the money to spread it over that time, so that it might not cost the ratepayers more than they are at present paying for the macademised roads; but the Metropolitan Board said, "You shall only borrow it for 20 years," thereby making the local burden heavier than it is at present to keep the roads in repair; and, I suppose, the consequence will be, that the parish will have to give up the idea of paving their roads, and will keep them as they are. Then in the City, the street opposite the Mansion House, adjoining the Poultry, as everyone must know, requires widening; and anyone standing in front of the Royal Exchange and looking westward, would see that it is on the north side of the Poultry that the widening should take place in order to make the Poultry and Cheapside a street, which you can look straight through. The Commissioners of Sewers, when a house was down on the north side, purchased it at an expense of 45,000 *l.*, a portion of the frontage, in order to widen the street; and they applied to the Metropolitan Board of Works for a contribution towards it; the Metropolitan Board said, "No, we do not approve of the widening of the north side, if it had been on the south side we would have helped you;" and, therefore, they leave the Commissioners of Sewers to pay the 45,000 *l.* themselves. Then there is a case at Acton, which is one of the remote parishes to which the Metropolitan Board of Works reaches. A very grievous case has occurred there. The main drainage commences in that parish, and the Board of Works has power to tax the parish towards the drainage; but the people have obtained no benefit from the drainage, and persons have been charged the full rate for houses for seven years, when the houses have not been built three years; and they have been made to pay that rate, and would have had their goods taken from them if they had not paid it.

1865. That would result from a defect in the law, I presume?—Either from a defect in the law or from the mode of carrying it out. The attention of members of the Board has been called to it two or three times, but no redress has been obtained. If the Corporation of London had done such a thing, they would have been held up by the press to public indignation for it.

1866. Do you think that this defective conduct of the Metropolitan Board of Works arises from their members not being directly responsible to the inhabitants?—Partly so, and partly because they have too much to do, which I shall come to presently. Then I think that the management of the Metropolitan Board of Works greatly increases the cost of local government; I may mention the recent case of the Fire Brigade. In the parish of Islington, before the new system was introduced, our fire brigade was a sufficient one, and was satisfactory to the inhabitants. It cost us 500 *l.* a year. The Metropolitan Board now charges us 1,600 *l.* a year as our contribution.

1867. That is in consequence of Parliament imposing a duty upon them, is it not?—Yes; I only say that the work when done by them costs a great deal of money.

1868. If Parliament had imposed upon you the duty of keeping up a fire brigade, which was formerly kept up by the insurance companies, it would have increased your charge in the same way, would it not?—We had two engines, and we have only one now; whenever other engines were sent for from other districts they came, so that I do not think that we are any better off practically. I only mention this as one instance of the increase of expense. The result is, that although our parish is increasing enormously in the number of houses and the amount of rates paid, yet instead of that having the effect of reducing the amount levied from each house, the amount goes on increasing. But I think I may say that this is not confined to the Metropolitan Board of Works. The centralising operation is a very expensive one, by whomsoever it may be carried out. We have it in the case of the police. I think you find that in a more circumscribed district like the City of London, the police only cost about 70*l.* or 80*l.* a man. We cannot tell exactly how many men are employed in the parish of Islington, but as nearly as we can ascertain it is about 100. We are charged 200*l.* a-head for each policeman employed in Islington, though I suppose we can have more men if they are needed, and if they are sent for on any particular occasion.

1869. If you applied your calculation probably to Belgrave-square; if there was only one policeman in Belgrave-square, and the adjoining districts, having a certain length to beat, that policeman would, in your mode of estimating charges, cost probably 1,000*l.*?—Probably so.

1870. Do you think that that is a wise mode of making a computation?—I think that the Metropolitan Police district is too large. I think that a district like Islington should not be charged 200*l.* per man while the City of London can be served for 70*l.* or 80*l.* per man. I prefer the system of the City of London to the system in use at Islington on that account.

1871. Lord *John Manners.*] What do you mean by the system of the City of London as contrasted with the system in the parish of Islington?—I mean that the Metropolitan Police system covers a much larger area, and therefore leads to greater expense.

1872. Would you wish to have a parochial police?—Not parochial, but a police by larger municipalities than the vestries, and with a smaller area than the present system of police.

1873. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Would you like to have all the police divided into small divisions of local policemen?—I should like to see each Parliamentary borough and municipality have its own police.

1874. Rather on the principle of the old watchmen?—No. On the principle of the City Police.

1875. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen*] Would you have any central police authority?—I think, perhaps, that it would be desirable to have a central authority to secure united action from the different municipalities, when it was required for the purpose of keeping public order.

1876. *Chairman.*] You would have the district police subject to a general controlling authority?—Exactly; so that in case of riots, or anything of that sort, it might be possible to bring them together,

1877. Lord *John Manners.*] Would you have a separate head and staff in each municipality?—I would have it the same as it is in the City.

1878. Mr. *Bentinck.*] You would have one chief of the police for Westminster and another for Marylebone, and so on?—For each municipality.

1879. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Your view, under the present system, is, that you pay those outer districts for a much larger number of men than you have to preserve order in your district; and that you really subscribe for a police in other districts?—Precisely. I think that the result of having so many works given to the Metropolitan Board to do, that Board being composed of so small a number of members, is, that the business is chiefly done by the chairman and the officers. When meetings of the Board are held, there is scarcely time to discuss sufficiently the business brought before it. Reports are brought up, which are chiefly prepared by the officers; and are adopted by the members, as I think, without sufficient consideration or discussion.

1880. Then, would you think it desirable to increase the number of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I think that if it were desirable to maintain the present system, the number should be enlarged.

1881. What is the number of the Common Council of the City of London?—There are 206 common councilmen and 26 aldermen.

1882. Do you find that number an inconvenient number for the purpose of deciding generally upon great and important questions in the City?—No.

1883. Do you think that having so large a number tends to the solemn consideration and decision of important questions?—I think it does.

1884. The Common Council does not itself transact any executive business, but refers it all to committees to work out certain instructions?—Yes, but it does not allow those committees to act without first reporting.

1885. But as a matter of principle, the Common Council itself does not conduct the details of business, but refers those details to committees, does it not?—Exactly so, but the committees cannot act without special instructions to that effect.

1886. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] What is the size of the committees?—Ordinary committees consist of about 30 members, but special committees are appointed of various numbers according to the nature of the case; sometimes they are smaller and sometimes larger. Then with regard to the vestries they are chiefly composed, as the Committee have been told by other witnesses, of tradesmen and professional men, whose business engagements prevent them from attending meetings in the day-time, and the meetings are therefore held in the evening; and I think that is one reason why persons of wealth and leisure are deterred from becoming vestrymen. They choose to go home to their families and friends, and when they are once at home, they will not leave home again to attend meetings.

1887. Do you mean that the vestrymen, as a rule, dine in the middle of the day, and meet in the evening, whereas the upper classes dine in the evening and will not come at that time?—Precisely so. Then the earlier part of the evening is spent in long speeches and personal discussions, and the principal part of the business is done at 9 or 10 o'clock, when the majority of the vestry-

Mr. *J. F. Bontems.*

8 April 1867.

men have left, tired out by the talking and quarrelling which have taken place.

1888. Is that your experience of the general character of the proceedings at the Islington vestry?—That is my experience.

1889. Lord *John Manners.*] How do you propose to amend that?—I think that would be amended by larger municipalities. Then the vestries generally elect one of their own members to represent them at the Metropolitan Board of Works. I admit that they generally elect one of their best men. I know several of them, and I think that they are the best men in their vestries; but I think that better men, men of more comprehensive knowledge and more enlarged views, and of greater wealth might be found. Those are the main objections that I have to the vestries.

1890. *Chairman.*] Is the vestry at Islington elected under a local Act?—Under the Metropolis Local Management Act.

1891. By wards?—By wards. There are eight wards in the parish.

1892. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you find that inconveniencies arise from the small extent of the districts under the present vestry administration?—Yes; in speaking of the advantages which I anticipate from the proposed municipalities, I shall refer to that point.

1893. *Chairman.*] Do you find that there is much disposition on the part of the inhabitants to take part in the ward elections?—Not much.

1894. Do many people attend the meetings for the purpose of nomination?—Very few, and we find an increasing disinclination to take part in them.

1895. Are you of opinion that the elections are becoming more and more formal, or that they are falling into the hands of a few busy people?—Quite so. In the ward of Canonbury, which I represent, we are obliged to form a committee and send out circulars, and urge the people to take part in the elections.

1896. Do you think that it would be desirable to adopt the plan used in the election of guardians, and if they were to make a direct communication to the inhabitants that an election was to take place?—I greatly prefer the present mode of voting by ballot to sending round voting papers; but I have no doubt it would induce a larger number to take part, because it would be less trouble.

1897. Do you think that the election would be improved if notice was sent to the inhabitants, of the candidates?—I think that is generally done.

1898. Not by authority?—No; it is sometimes done by a committee of the ward; and then the effect is, that some of the inhabitants do come out and vote, who otherwise would not do so. I suppose that we have in our ward some 2,000 ratepayers, and the highest candidate polls about 350. And I do not suppose that one quarter of that number would poll if there were not a committee formed, and circulars sent to them, asking them to support certain names.

1899. Lord *John Manners.*] Do political considerations at all affect the choice of vestrymen?—I do not think they do now.

1900. They used to do so, did they not?—I think not generally; I think the principal question is the question of spending the money; a dispute between the economists and what they call the extravagant party.

1901. *Chairman.*] What is the number of your vestry now?—One hundred and twenty.

1902. Do you find that an inconvenient number for the consideration of questions of general interest?—I think not. I do not think that there would be much advantage in reducing it.

1903. Do you delegate all executive matters to committees?—Yes; the 120 members are divided into six committees of 20 each, to whom is entrusted all the executive business of the parish, subject to approval by the vestry.

1904. And the whole board only does the deliberative business upon the general questions?—That is all; but they now have all contracts brought before the general vestry; the tenders are opened now in the presence of the whole vestry. There is one other thing connected with the vestries, which I should like to mention. I think, if the vestries were continued, they should have the right of electing a chairman for the year. At present a clergyman, the vicar of the parish, is chairman of our vestry and a very good chairman he is; but of course he has other things to attend to, it being a very large parish, and he only comes to the vestry on one day in the year, namely, Easter Tuesday; we are left at other times to discuss the appointment of a chairman for the evening, and that sometimes leads to a debate and a division.

1905. Apart from the personal excellence of your clergyman, is it, in your opinion, desirable that the clergyman should take this position?—I should object to it.

1906. Lord *John Manners.*] Would you propose to elect a vice-chairman?—I do not know why the clergyman should be the chairman of the vestry. It has nothing at all to do with religious matters. I think that the vestry might have power to elect a good man of business, a member of their own body, for a year; it would save a great deal of time.

1907. *Chairman.*] Do you find the parish of Islington either too large or too small for the convenient administration of local affairs?—I think that if it were larger it would be better.

1908. To what extent do you think it would be desirable to enlarge it?—To the extent of the whole borough of Finsbury; and, I think, it would very much reduce the expense of management. For instance, there are Islington, St. Luke's, Clerkenwell, and Holborn, four vestries or local boards all within the borough of Finsbury, with their vestry clerks and surveyors and all the staff throughout; I think that one staff would do for all four if there were a municipality for the borough of Finsbury.

1909. Is Islington a union of itself for the administration of the Poor Law?—The parish of Islington has a local Act for the management of the poor.

1910. But is it a union of itself?—It is.

1911. It is not united with any other parish for the purpose of administering the Poor Law?—It is not.

1912. Has it a separate board for that purpose?—It has.

1913. Have all the other districts?—I cannot speak as to the other districts on the Poor Law question.

1914. Do you think it would be desirable to unite the whole of those various boards into one board?—I am not so certain about its being desirable to give the municipal authorities the management

management of the poor. I think that separate bodies are perhaps quite as well.

1915. Do you think that the functions of relieving the poor and the functions of keeping the houses inhabited by the poor in proper order, come very closely into contact with one another, and have an important bearing upon one another?—No doubt of it; but still I think that to attend to them properly would require so much time that the same individuals could not give their time to both. We find that in the City of London a number of gentlemen devote themselves to the interests of the poor who do not take part in the Corporation; and I think that it is quite as well that the managements should be separate, because each of those subjects is better attended to.

1916. But, supposing there were one Board, would not those matters be given to separate committees like other matters?—No doubt, if the committees were made smaller the business could be more distributed.

1917. Do you not think that a Board of 120 men could select a committee which could watch over the relief of the poor in Islington?—No doubt. I should have no strong objection to its being done. I think that the Committee must be large enough to know the different neighbourhoods where the poor reside, and that there should be somebody on the Committee managing the relief of the poor who would know the poor in each of the different districts.

1918. How many would you want for that purpose in Islington?—I think that two from each ward would do; that would be 16.

1919. Therefore, the Poor Law might be efficiently administered by a committee of 20, if the members were amenable and responsible to the whole body of 120?—I think there would be no difficulty in that.

1920. Then the functions of the different departments whenever they came into collision or relation to one another, might be brought into harmony by the central board, might they not?—Precisely.

1921. Do you think that that would be conducive to economy of administration?—I think it would.

1922. If you grouped the districts together as you have proposed, how would you then administer their local affairs?—I would have a mayor, aldermen, and council for each of the boroughs. I would make each of the present parliamentary boroughs into a municipality, and have a corporation for each of them; and I would put the questions of the markets, the water supply, the gas supply, the street improvements, the street traffic and nomenclature, educational institutions, and the administration of justice, all under the care of those municipalities. For instance, in Islington, we have not a single market for the 200,000 inhabitants.

1923. You have the cattle market there, have you not?—That is a market for live cattle; that we look upon as the City market. That is, certainly, within the parish of Islington.

1924. Would you have, then, a separate cattle market for each locality?—I mean a provision market where the poor could buy their provisions.

1925. Is there any merit in having such a market as that, in your opinion?—I think it is very useful to have such a market for the poor.

1926. What is attained by that?—Provisions are fresher and cheaper, I think.

1927. Do you think that people would go to market in preference to the shop nearest to the place where they live?—I think so. People go now to Newgate Market, and other markets in the City, and take their purchases home to Islington, which they would not do if they had a market in the neighbourhood. Then, with regard to the administration of justice, we have no police magistrate in the district; we are obliged to go out of the district three or four miles sometimes.

1928. Where is the nearest police court?—At Clerkenwell.

1929. That is in the borough of Finsbury, is it not?—That is in the borough of Finsbury, but quite at the extreme end of the borough. If we had one of our own it would be more central.

1930. You think you could find gentlemen in the borough of Finsbury who would perform the duties of the police magistrates, and sit from day to day as justices of the peace?—I assume that if we had a corporation, we should possibly have some aldermen as justices, and they would no doubt attend to the administration of justice, or we should have a police magistrate probably for each municipality. If we had a municipality for Finsbury, we should also probably get a town hall, whereas we have not a single place for the public to meet at; we have either to meet in the open air, or else to pay a large sum for a building for the purpose.

1931. Have you not the hall where your business is carried on?—Yes, but the hall is only large enough to hold 120 persons. It is nicely fitted up, and the rule is not to allow the public to use it. Then we have no public schools, except the schools for the poor, as there are in the City of London, and in all the places where municipalities have been founded; and there is no centre for endowments to be left for the support of schools or libraries. Nobody thinks of leaving endowments to be administered by vestries, so that we go on from year to year, and while places which have corporations, have large sums left to them to improve their institutions, we get nothing, because there is no local authority which is regarded as sufficiently permanent for persons of property to leave their money to for such purposes. I should wish to say one word upon the question of entertainments, upon which so much has been said. I think that an erroneous impression has gone abroad as to the amount which is spent for entertainments in the City of London. I may mention that since I have been a member of that Corporation, I think that I have given on an average the best part of two days a week of my time to the business of the Corporation; I think I am upon six committees, and seven or eight sub-committees, and my share of the amount expended for entertainments is less than 10*l.* a year; so that I think I cannot plead guilty to having over indulged myself at the expense of the Corporation; and the same may be said of a great many of my colleagues; therefore I think that it is hardly fair to condemn the Corporation on that ground.

1932. What do you mean by the amount spent in entertainments upon you?—I mean that the average amount allowed by the Corporation for each member is under 10*l.* in the year. It occurred to me, when I heard an honourable Member the other day suggest that the Members of

Mr. *J. F. Bontems.*

8 April 1867.

the House of Commons had no allowance, and had to pay for their own dinners, that there was something analogous to our allowance to the Lord Mayor in the salary of the Speaker. The Speaker entertains the Members of the House of Commons, I think, in rotation until the whole of the Members have been entertained; that is precisely what the Lord Mayor does out of his allowance in the City; he entertains, once during his year of office, the Common Council, just in the same way as the Speaker does the Members of the House of Commons.

1933. Are you aware of the amount which is spent out of the corporate funds for the purposes of entertainments in each year, or of the average for the last five years?—The whole of the allowance to all the committees of the Corporation is, I think, 2,000 *l.* a year.

1934. Are you aware of the whole amount which has been spent by the Corporation in entertainments during the last five years?—I am not; but there is no other fund out of which entertainments are paid but the allowance to the committees and the allowance to the Lord Mayor, except in the case of special entertainments, such as that given to Prince Alfred on his taking the freedom of the City. That is the only occasion on which I can remember an extra allowance being granted.

1935. What is the sum total of the allowances to all the committees, to the Lord Mayor, and to the Sheriffs?—I do not know. The Sheriffs contribute to the expense of the entertainment on Lord Mayor's-day, but I am not aware that there is any allowance to the Sheriffs; I believe it is paid entirely out of their own pockets.

Thursday, 11th April 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.
Mr. Bazley.
Mr. Bentinck.
Mr. Kekewich.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.
Mr. Locke.
Mr. Mill.
Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Tite.
Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. Thomas Rudkin, called in; and Examined.

1936. Mr. *Bazley.*] Is the health of the inmates amply provided for in the model lodging-houses in Smithfield?—Certainly.

1937. Is there anything offensive connected with the Cattle Market?—Nothing at all. I should like to state the cost of construction, which I do not think has been given before. The estimated cost is 30,000 *l.*

1938. *Chairman.*] Do you mean of the conversion?—That is the estimated cost of the ground, the buildings, and of the conversion.

1939. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Have you any complaints to make of the present local government of the metropolis as regards this question of the lodging-houses in the Cattle Market?—There is no complaint that I am aware of. I am prepared to give the data upon which the houses are established. There is accommodation provided for 124 families; there are 306 rooms, and the rents vary from 2*s.* up to 12*s.* 6*d.* per week. They are very generally let, and give the tenants great satisfaction. Provision is made in the buildings, in case of fire, by fire mains; all the usual sanitary arrangements have been made, and are in a very perfect form.

1940. *Chairman.*] Do you pay the house-tax upon them?—We pay all the rates and taxes, but I am not aware as to the house-tax.

1941. Mr. *Bazley.*] Are the rents paid in advance?—The rents are paid one week in advance.

1942. Mr. *Alderman Lawrence.*] Is there a front door to the house?—There is one general entrance.

1943. And a door to it?—There is a door to it.

1944. Mr. *Tite.*] What were those places built for?—They were originally constructed for hotels.

1945. And they were not wanted?—They were not wanted.

1946. That was a mistake of somebody's, was it?—No doubt. It was anticipated that the cattle salesmen and the trade, as a rule, would go up to the Cattle Market, and frequent the hotels, but that was found to be a mistake. It was the action of the House of Commons which thrust that market upon the Corporation.

1947. *Chairman.*] Is it true that the House of Commons did it, or was it the voluntary act of the Corporation to undertake the Cattle Market?—It was offered to the Corporation if they would undertake it; but by the Act of Parliament, as originally passed, Commissioners were appointed to carry it out.

1948. When you say that the action of the House of Commons thrust it upon the Corporation, what authority have you for that statement?—The Act of Parliament itself, by stating that if the Corporation did not within a given time take the matter up, it would be given to somebody else.

1949. How does that force it upon the Corporation to make the Islington Cattle Market?—In self-defence, I apprehend.

1950. Is that forcing it upon them; was it not the voluntary act of the Corporation, done entirely of their own motion?—I do not think that it was the voluntary act of the Corporation; they were forced into the matter.

1951. What is your authority for stating that they were forced into it?—My knowledge of the facts at the time.

1952. Will you be good enough to give your authority for stating that the Corporation were forced to make the Cattle Market?—It was not willingly done at the time.

1953. What was the force which was put upon the Corporation?—They must either do it or lose the control of the market.

1954. Mr. *Alderman Lawrence.*] Were you not aware that the Corporation thought that there was an understanding that, by taking the market upon their shoulders, the conservancy of the River Thames was to have been left with them, and that the whole question as to the bed and soil of the river, which had been in dispute, was to have terminated?—I am not aware of that fact.

1955. And that the City took the market upon themselves upon that understanding?—I am not aware of it.

1956. Mr. *Tite.*] Were there any other mistakes made besides those hotels in that market?—I should not be surprised at it; I dare say that there were. I know that the Corporation have lost something like 70,000*l.* by the market since its starting.

1957. Do you mean by an annual loss?—I mean by an annual loss of something like from 5,000*l.* to 6,000*l.* a year.

1958. Do you mean that the market has cost the Corporation more than is returned by it?—I do.

1959. Mr. *Alderman Lawrence.*] Did you carry out the cattle-plague regulations?—We had the whole of the control of the cattle plague within the City, and we also initiated and suggested to the Government the desirability of the system of isolation long before it was carried out by the Government themselves.

WILLIAM CORRIE, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

W. Corrie, Esq.
11 April 1867.

1960. *Chairman.*] You promised to produce to the Committee certain Acts of Parliament with regard to the authority of the City of London; can you refer the Committee to them?—The Committee will remember that I was to produce Acts of Parliament which continue to the Corporation of the City of London the authority which they had after the passing of the Metropolis Local Management Act up to the present time. The Committee may remember that I stated that the Metropolitan Board of Works from time to time have endeavoured to obtain powers in the City which we have resisted. The honourable Member for Bath seemed to think that they had not attempted to obtain those powers, but that they had been rather pressed upon them by the Government. I do not mean to trouble the Committee with all the private Acts from 1855 up to the present time, which, without exception, continue to the City the powers which they had before; but I may state that the Metropolitan Board of Works are not allowed, in any instance, to come into the City and to interfere with them. In the year 1864 there was a very strong instance of this. There was a company called the Pneumatic Dispatch Company, which came in the year 1864 for further powers. I have before me a Bill which was introduced in the House of Lords, and the Metropolitan Board of Works, by their counsel, Mr. Phinn, appeared before the Committee of the House of Lords and proposed a clause, which I hold in my hand. The clause is this: "That before any of the intended works to be done under or by virtue of this Act, which shall in any way interfere with any street or road within the limits of the metropolis, as defined by "The Metropolis Management Amendment Act, 1862," be commenced by the said company, they shall give to the said Metropolitan Board of Works 21 days' previous notice;" and then it goes on to say: "And the said Metropolitan Board of Works shall be at liberty to make such alterations in the said plan and section, with respect to the course, inclination, and levels of the said works, and as otherwise." Now the Committee will perceive that if this clause had been adopted by the House of Lords, the result would have been what we say has happened inadvertently in the case of improvements in the City of London; because the word "metropolis" would have included the City, and then it would have given them complete power to supersede the Commissioners of Sewers, and to supersede the City authorities altogether, if the clause had been adopted. I attended before the Committee of the House of Lords, and objected altogether to the clause of the Metropolitan Board of Works; but proposed that the Board of Trade, if anybody was to have anything to do with the matter, should be the umpire, if I may so say, upon the point; and the Committee of the House of Lords rejected this clause of the Metropolitan Board of Works upon the evidence which I now have before me, and which I submitted to them upon that occasion. The Bill then having passed in that way came down to the House of Commons; and the Board of Works were not satisfied with the decision of the House of Lords, but they again appeared before the House of Commons, and the matter was again discussed; and it was again rejected.

1961. Mr. *Tite.*] Then who has the power?—We have the power in the City, and they have the power out of the City. We do not for a moment interfere with what they do out of the City, but it is within the City that we object to it.

1962. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Was the clause rejected or altered?—It was rejected.

1963. I understand you that this was a necessary clause as regarded the rest of the metropolis?—I explain it in this way; the original Act of Parliament contains powers for the City authorities and powers for the authorities out of the City. Then this new Act of Parliament was introduced, and they proposed that clause which would have given them not the authority which they had under the original Act of Parliament, but those greater powers which are contained in the clause.

1964. Then you thought that they had the necessary power in their own districts without this clause?—They have the necessary power in what I would call their own jurisdiction; that is outside the City; but they have no power within the City. But if that clause had been adopted they would have superseded us and they would have had powers in the City. There is a clause which continues the power which existed in the previous Act. I have a Queen's printer's copy of the Act of Parliament as it passed, and that clause is not in it, and we are left as we were before.

1965. What clause was passed with respect to this power?—No new power was given to anybody. It merely continued the powers which were in the original Act of Parliament.

1966. Then it might have been that the Committees of the House of Lords and of the House of Commons considered that the power demanded by the Metropolitan Board of Works was already possessed by them under other Acts, and that this clause was unnecessary?—It was expressly pointed out to them in the evidence which I gave, how the powers were already and the effect of that clause, and that was the cause of its rejection.

1967. Will you read the clause which was passed by the House of Lords and the House of Commons, meeting the views of the Metropolitan Board of Works in some degree?—The clause as passed was the clause proposed with which the Metropolitan Board of Works were not satisfied.

1968. Will you read the clause?—Yes. "If any difference shall arise between the Company and the Commissioners of Sewers for the City of London, or between the Company and the Metropolitan Board of Works, or any district board or vestry," it is to be settled by an engineer appointed by the Board of Trade. But there is also a clause continuing the power of the previous Act of Parliament. My evidence will perhaps explain that matter. I stated that the Pneumatic Company's Act, by the 15th clause, provided, that any works within the City should be executed under the superintendence and to the reasonable satisfaction of the City of London, and subject to the provisions of the City of London Sewers Act, 1848; and of course the clause I produce, if it had been inserted in the Bill, would have completely overridden the previous clause.

1969. In point of fact, no special clause was thought necessary by the Committees?—That is what

what I say. Each authority had power under the original Act, the Board of Works outside the City, and the City authorities inside the City. They came forward with that clause which I have produced to the Committee, which, if carried, would have had the effect of superseding us altogether, and would have made them the presiding authority in the City as well as outside the City.

1970. Mr. *Tite.*] As with regard to the main sewers, the Metropolitan Board of Works have the power, have they not, of controlling the main sewers in the City of London?—No doubt.

1971. And they wanted a similar power with regard to a work which was coming along there, and interfering with all the sewers over which they have control?—The Committee will see what their power is if it interfered with their sewers, but that clause would have given them power to interfere with our sewers also.

1972. The point was this: that when we got to Holborn Bars our authority ceased, and that was very inconvenient and very undesirable?—The point has been argued before Committees of both Houses, and the view which they took was what we contended for.

1973. But you infer from that, the principle which I was trying to suggest to you, that there might be a very sufficient reason why the Metropolitan Board of Works having control of the sewers, should desire to have the control of this Pneumatic Dispatch Company, which was running over the top of the sewers?—It might run over the sewers, or by the side of them; but they have power of dealing with it if it interferes with their main sewer, and it is proper that they should have that power; but it seems to me to be perfectly clear that their object was to gain greater powers, and then they would have cited that in future cases, and so they would accumulate and increase their powers from time to time.

1974. Mr. *Mill.*] Has it ever been maintained by the Metropolitan Board of Works that they have the power in question under Acts of Parliament previous to this one?—They know that they have not the power, as the honourable Member for Bath says; they would say, "Our powers ceased at Holborn Bars, and therefore we thought it very desirable to have this power."

1975. It is an undisputed point, is it not, that the Metropolitan Board of Works had no power within Holborn Bars previously to this Act which did not give the many such powers?—Precisely; that is how it is. I have not troubled the Committee with the names of private Acts of Parliament, in which the same sort of things have been done, because they are very often inserted by promoters at the request of different parties, and perhaps there is no great authority in them; but this is a case in which the question was distinctly raised and discussed before Committees of the two Houses of Parliament, and no attempt was made by the Board of Works to go to either House to try to reverse the decision of the Committee.

1976. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you know in fact that the Metropolitan Board of Works have had the greatest possible difficulty with the Pneumatic Dispatch Company, and that they have had to take legal proceedings against them in the upper part of Holborn, because the levels were inconvenient, and interfered with the sewers to a certain extent. I believe they have not proceeded into the City at all; but are you aware that there has been an excessive amount of litigation with this company?—It is suggested to me that it is not near the sewer, but I do not know anything at all about it, and therefore, perhaps, I had better not give an opinion about it.

1977. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] In fact, that Bill provides that the Board of Trade should be the ultimate court of appeal, does it not?—Yes; but you will observe that the clause gave the Board of Works power to come in as I have stated. I do not trouble the Committee, as I have said, with regard to the private Acts of Parliament, but there are three public Acts of Parliament to which I will just call the attention of the Committee, the 20 & 21 Vict. c. 147, the 27 & 28 Vict. c. 113, and the 29 & 30 Vict. c. 89. Those are the Acts relating to the Conservancy of the Thames, and they continue to the City of London the power of nominating the conservators; but they do not give any power to the Metropolitan Board of Works; and I believe the honourable Member for Bath will admit that they have several times attempted to get this power, and that last year it was refused to them.

1978. Mr. *Tite.*] And they are trying this year, and very properly, in my opinion?—Yes; but I thought that the proposition was that everything was thrust upon them. Now, it seems to me, so far as it has ever come under my notice, that they have been trying to acquire this power. I did not know that the Board itself had authorised those proceedings so much; I thought that it was rather with the zealous officers of the Board who were trying to do it for the Board; but it seems from what falls from the honourable Member that it is the Board itself.

1979. The Metropolitan Board of Works seek to be represented among the conservators of the river, thinking that as they have to deal with the banks of the river, it is right that they should have a representative on that Board. Sir John Thwaites explained in his evidence why it was wished, and he did not throw it upon the officers of the Board, but took it upon the Board; they tried last year and failed, and they are trying again this year?—Supposing they had succeeded, I should not have considered that it would have displaced the proposition which I have endeavoured to submit to the Committee. It seems to me, that up to the present moment, at least, though what Parliament will do of course I cannot tell, they have been refused this power very strongly. It is suggested to me, that the House of Commons yesterday refused them again. That I do not know of my own knowledge, but if it be so it will be another case against them. The next Act of Parliament which I will submit to the Committee is the 22 & 23 Vict. c. 66. It is an Act for regulating the measures used in the sale of gas; and the part which I wish to point out to the Committee is in sect. 3. It directs that models of the instrument by which the gas is to be measured are to be sent to certain parties, and amongst them is the Lord Mayor of London. Now, this induces me to call the attention of the Committee to a point which was suggested by the honourable Member for the City of London. He stated that when the Act for amending this Act of Parliament was introduced, it was proposed that the inspectors should not have power to stamp any meter unless it was manufactured in the district, and that the consequence of that would have been (as very few were made in the City of London), that it would have destroyed what the original Act had given them, namely, the power of stamping those measures. I have caused

W. Corrie, Esq.

11 April 1867.

caused inquiries to be made on the subject, and I find that the Bill, as originally introduced by Sir George Grey and Mr. Bruce, did contain a clause to the effect that no inspector should stamp any gas meter, unless it was manufactured in the district. Now, as none, I believe, were manufactured in the City of London, the result would have been to destroy what I may call their business, and which I can also state to the Committee is a most profitable business. I have inquired at the office, and I find that, after paying all their expenses, they make something like 600*l.* a year, which goes towards improvements and in augmentation of the consolidated rate. I was also told, and the honourable Member for Bath will know whether that is the fact, that the results outside the City have been very different, and that, though they have established three or four of those places for testing the meters, they have been most unprofitable, or have made no profit, whereas ours have been very profitable, after paying all expenses, to the extent of making 600*l.* a year. I have endeavoured to carry my inquiry further on this point, and the officer's opinion is that there is a sort of reputation which the City of London has, and that their stamp is looked up to in all parts of the country, and that from many of the districts they send their meters and have them stamped here, and they are used all over the country.

1980. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] In point of fact, I believe that the City stamp has a character in all parts of the world, and most of those meters which are exported are stamped in the City of London?—Yes, I have here the Bill as originally introduced by the Government. Then I have also the Act as it passed when that was struck out, and the City Solicitor, who then filled my office, saw the Government on the matter, and when it was explained to them what the result would be, they immediately struck that clause out.

1981. Mr. *Tite.*] Then what is the complaint now?—Not any. We are perfectly satisfied because we have succeeded. But the suggestion which I make is this, that the Board of Works were anxious to have this clause, which would have destroyed our business, and they did not succeed.

1982. Did you hear the reason which was given by Sir John Thwaites?—I did not. That is the inference which I draw. Then the next Act to which I will call the attention of the Committee is the 25th & 26th Vict. c. 66, s. 4. That is an Act for the safe keeping of petroleum; and the fourth section provides, among the bodies who shall be authorised to grant licenses under this Act, the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen are to be the authorities in the City of London.

1983. When did that Act pass?—This Act passed in the year 1862. The next Act is the 26th & 27th Vict. c. 13, s. 2. That is an Act for the protection of certain gardens or ornamental grounds in cities and boroughs.

1984. *Chairman.*] It is commonly called Lord Redesdale's Act, is it not?—Yes. The second section is this: "And whereas it is expedient that the same should be carefully protected from undue encroachment, where any right to require that any garden or ornamental ground as aforesaid be kept and maintained as such, or that the same shall not be built upon, shall belong to any person in right of any house or other property, and he shall, by notice in writing, signed by him, addressed to the Metropolitan Board of Works where the same is in any place under their jurisdiction, except the City of London, where the same shall be addressed to the Corporation of the said City." It is really continuing the legislation all the way down to the present time.

1985. Do you know how that Bill came down from the House of Lords; it was originated in the House of Lords, was it not?—I have not inquired as to that. I read it as it is passed as an Act.

1986. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] I presume the whole of your evidence is tending to show that the City of London has repeatedly been recognised in different Acts of Parliament, since the formation of the Metropolitan Board of Works, as a separate and distinct jurisdiction from that of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—That is so. And that the Metropolitan Board of Works have never been allowed to have jurisdiction inthe City. As the honourable Member thinks I have established that point I will only cite one other Act. It is the 29th & 30th Vict. c. 2, the Cattle Diseases Prevention Act; and under section 4, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen are made the local authority for that Act of Parliament, exclusive of the Board of Works. That point is what I wish to establish before the Committee. I have only one other point, I think, to trouble the Committee with, and that was with reference to the evidence which Sir John Thwaites gave the other day. The Committee will remember that his opinion in the first instance was, that it was not desirable that local authorities should have the power of making improvements compulsorily; but, in the course of his examination, some gentleman behind him put into his hand an Act of Parliament, and he said, "Oh, I find that the 57th Geo. 3, which is the Act which gives this power in the City of London is incorporated with our Act." Of course, the inference which the Committee would draw from that would be, that, if it was incorporated in their Act, it gave them the same power; that, I say, would be the natural inference, and I have no doubt Sir John Thwaites thought it was so. But I wish to show that it was not so.

1987. Mr. *Tite.*] If they have not such a power, do you not think that they ought to have such a power?—I think not.

1988. You think the City ought to have it, but not the Metropolitan Board?—My idea is, that the local authorities ought to have the power of making those local improvements, and that the Board of Works ought not to have it; at all events, I think it is very clear that they have not the power, but my proposition in the first instance was, that we have much more extensive powers than the Metropolitan Board of Works.

1989. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] I understand your answer to be, that you think that a local authority ought to have the larger powers *qua* improvements than the central authority?—I will take the two cases of the City of London and the Metropolitan Board of Works, and I say that we ought to have the power of carrying on those local improvements, and that they ought not to have anything at all to do with them. The Legislature has not interfered with it, as I shall show, with regard to the outside of the City; and if the larger parishes outside have the power (I am not their advocate, but I am only speaking for ourselves), I say that we ought to have the power continued to us at all events.

1990. Mr.

1990. Mr. *Mill.*] I presume that you mean that those local improvements which are for the interest of the inhabitants of the City, and which concern them only, should be exclusively made by the City authorities; you do not mean that improvements of a larger character, which extend to other districts of the metropolis, as well as to the City, should be made exclusively by the City, or by the local authorities of those other districts; and that there should be no general body whatever empowered to make such improvements?—My opinion is this: I think first of all that these local improvements ought to be in the hands of the local authorities; I cannot imagine any great case in which the parties must not come to the Legislature upon that subject; and I think that the proper time to determine who is to do the work would be, when they come before the Legislature. It would not do to entrust any local authority with the power of raising sums of money as was proposed, and is proposed this year by the Metropolitan Board of Works and all the metropolis, I believe, are protesting against that power being given to them.

1991. But assuming that it would not be proper to have any of those great improvements made without obtaining the authority of the Legislature for making them, that authority, if given, must be given to some executive body or other; and do you not think that when the improvement is one which regards the whole metropolis, the body that is entrusted with executing it, ought to be one that has authority over the metropolis throughout?—I will put a case to illustrate what I mean; it is projected, I believe, at the present time by Mr. Haywood, that a grand street should be made running from east to west through the City. Supposing that some persons came to Parliament to promote a Bill to make such a street, if I might humbly suggest what the proper course would be, I should say that it would be to appoint some persons from both districts, to appoint some from the City, and some from outside, and to let them execute the work; I do not think for such works as that any central body is necessary.

1992. Would you have a special body constituted for the whole metropolis, for the express purpose of that particular improvement?—Suppose it ran from Westminster through the City, and supposing Westminster were then a municipality, I would let the Corporation of Westminster and the Corporation of London execute that work jointly, and that would then be, I think, a very good body for doing it; but I do not see that the inhabitants of Woolwich or of Hampstead would be wanted at all to assist in such a matter.

1993. Do you not think that a great line of communication of this sort, to use your example, would be materially for the advantage, not only of the particular districts through which it might pass, but of all the districts which would be enabled to communicate with one another through it? Do you not think that, for instance, a great street passing through the City, and through Westminster, would be of great use to the Kensington and Chelsea districts, and also to the Finsbury and Tower Hamlets districts?—Then, I say again, let the Legislature determine what parties are interested, and let those parties be represented.

1994. Mr. *Tite.*] The matter was discussed in the House of Commons, and it was declared that the Metropolitan Board of Works was the proper party to do it; as regards the great street and the Embankment, was not that an improvement which was introduced by the Government?—Yes.

1995. In the House of Commons, upon discussion, it was suggested, as you told us in your former evidence, that there should be a Commission to carry out that work. The House of Commons negatived that proposition, and in the House of Commons itself in Committee upon the Bill, it was determined that the Board of Works was the proper authority to do that. You do not think that the House of Commons were right in that; you have a right to that opinion; but the House of Commons determined it so, did they not?—I look upon that street as a very peculiar case. The Metropolitan Board of Works had previously to that, the 9*d.* coal duty placed under their hands for improvements, and the Embankment was to be carried out and provided for out of that 9*d.* duty. This was a continuation of the embankment and is to be provided for out of that 9*d.* duty; and, therefore, it is an exceptional case.

1996. Do you think that that is a reason to justify your opinion that the House was wrong in that determination?—I do not say that the House was wrong, but I say that that is a peculiar case. The House, for certain reasons, thought fit to do it; but that is not applicable to anything that may occur again.

1997. Did the Metropolitan Board of Works seek that, or take any steps towards it, until the discussion took place in the House of Commons as to who should carry it out; the payment being from the 9*d.* coal duty, it was suggested that it should be done by the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the House unanimously agreed to it, was not that so?—I do not like to speak in opposition to the statement of the honourable Member; but I was yesterday reading the proceedings where the Metropolitan Board of Works appeared before the Committee as the promoters of the Bill, and the City of London opposed it; and the whole matter was discussed there, therefore, it did not seem to me as if they were having something given to them, which they did not want, but that they were very anxious to get it.

1998. They could not be the promoters of the Bill because the promoters of the Bill were the Government, and the Government, as you know, employed Mr. Baxter as their agent?—I think Mr. Hope Scott was one of the counsel.

1999. He was not our counsel; Mr. Phinn was our counsel, was he not?—Mr. Phinn was also there, because he was one of the counsel, I remember.

2000. Mr. *Mill.*] Would you not think it very desirable that there should be some authority charged with the express duty of planning and originating the improvements which may be necessary in a great town like the metropolis?—My idea upon that is this; you will always find projectors; it would not be the Board of Works, or the City of London, or the central authority, it would be some clever projector who would come and lay this plan before them, and then it would be carried out afterwards.

2001. No doubt all proposals for improvements originate with some individual or other, but would you think it desirable to leave the whole business of suggesting the improvement,

W. Corrie, Esq.

11 April 1867.

and of getting together the people who are to bring such improvements before the Legislature entirely to individuals?—I do not see the necessity, but, however, I do not wish to combat that suggestion; but I wish to say, that I feel very confident that the Metropolitan Board of Works ought not to be that authority; I think they ought to be elected for the express purpose, and also elected directly by the ratepayers.

2002. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] You do not think that in any such large improvement as has been spoken of there is an advantage in having some persons controlling it who are not immediately connected with the district, and who are therefore not subject to the local prejudices of the district?—I think that the proper tribunal is a Committee of Parliament. With regard to carrying it out, I think the local authorities should carry it out; when the scheme is fixed by Parliament, then I think the carrying of it out should be as it was in the case of the embankment, and as in the case of the great sewers. It was a thing that had been talked of and settled years ago, and it was Mr. Bazalgette's plan which was carried out.

2003. You do not think that, as in the case which you mentioned just now, with regard to Westminster and the City of London, if two local authorities were carrying out such an improvement there might be a clashing between them which would prejudice the undertaking, and which clashing would not occur if the undertaking was under the supervision of one central authority?—Each district might be represented. It would be very unfortunate if Hampstead and Woolwich were to determine upon what was to be done, and if Westminster and London were to be outvoted.

2004. You are supposing a case of both local authorities agreeing upon a point and being outvoted by persons having no connection with the district; but is not that rather an extreme case?—I think it is very likely to occur, particularly if the question of expense arose.

2005. In a central authority, would not the views of the inhabitants of the locality have their just weight?—We have tried that with regard to the City of London and the Metropolitan Board of Works, and we do not think we have just weight by having three representatives at that Board. There are not many cases in which it does arise, because they have not much power at present; but if they got the power, we should be out-voted by the representatives of those little outlying districts.

2006. Why do you assume that you would be out-voted?—Because, if we had only three or four, or five members, those parishes which do not amount altogether to anything like the rateable value of the City could outvote it.

2007. Are you not now travelling away from this particular point, and rather dealing with the peculiar constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works, of which you complain as a distinct question, than with the principle of a central Board?—The existence of the Board presents to my mind a practical case; but, I think, unless you were to give the local representative some greater weight by plurality of voting, or something of that sort, they would be liable to be outvoted.

2008. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you think that, in the case of such an improvement as that which you mentioned of a street passing through the City and through Westminster, but which would benefit other parts of the metropolis and not only those two districts, it would be just to expect that the City and Westminster should, or do you think they would voluntarily, consent to defray the expense of this work by rates borne wholly by themselves and not paid by other parts of the metropolis?—I think if it were shown, as is suggested by the question, that other parts of the metropolis were interested, they would in some way or other have to contribute towards it: and the Legislature would then determine how far those other districts were to be represented according to the contributions which they might make.

2009. The Legislature might fix a maximum of rates which it should be allowable to levy on the metropolis generally, or on any of its parts; but as they could not fix the exact sum, I apprehend they must confide to some authority or other the power of levying the rate; and, as they would probably not be willing to vest in the representatives of the City and of Westminster the power of levying rates on other parts of the metropolis, would it not be necessary that they should appoint some special authority representing the whole metropolis for that purpose?—I intended to say, I think, that it would be a good plan if this were done; but I do not think it is necessary that you should keep up this central authority, for perhaps once or twice in the course of a century an improvement of this sort being made, because it is kept up at great expense. However, I do not express my opinion at all upon that subject.

2010. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Does not what you have said rather militate against the necessity of any central authority?—I do not see the necessity for it; but there is very great difference of opinion about it. Mr. Haywood has given you his opinion upon the subject, but that is my own opinion; it is worth very little, I dare say, but I do not think it necessary to establish this central authority for something that may only happen once or twice in a century.

2011. And no improvement in the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works would reconcile you to its existence, or to the existence of any such central authority?—If I might frame the constitution, I dare say I should frame one which I should be satisfied with.

2012. That is not the question. There are two complaints; one being as to the constitution of, and defective representation on the Metropolitan Board of Works; but I understand you to go beyond that, and to object to any constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works, or any central authority?—I object to any authority that comes and interferes with us.

2013. Mr. *Tite.*] You think, as I understand you, that if the Metropolitan Board of Works have not the power, of which you have spoken, they ought to have it?—If I were not to make an explanation, the Committee would assume that it is admitted now that they have the power given them. Sir John Thwaites thought so, and the person who handed this Act of Parliament to him thought so too; but I shall show that he was mistaken. I am going to point to the different sections, and the Committee will see that I am right. Of course Sir John Thwaites is not a lawyer, and the Act is put into his hands, and he says, "It is incorporated in our Act, and we have the power." I say that they have not the power

power. The 73rd section of the 25 & 26 Vict. c. 102 is this: "The powers of improving and regulating streets, and for the suppression of nuisances contained in the Act of the 57th year of the reign of his Majesty King George 3rd, chapter 29, local and personal, intituled "An Act for better Paving, Improving, and Regulating the Streets of the Metropolis, and Removing and Preventing Nuisances and Obstructions therein, shall, so far as the same is in force, and is not inconsistent with the provisions of the recited Acts and this Act, extend and apply to the Metropolis." Then, if we turn to the 57th of George 3rd, chapter 29, section 80, which is the Act referred to, the Committee will see what the metropolis means there: "And be it further enacted, that for the improvement of the streets and public places in the parochial or other districts within the jurisdiction of this Act, and for the public advantage, it shall and may be lawful to and for the commissioners or trustees, or other persons having the control of the pavements of any parochial or other district, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, to alter, widen, turn, or extend any of the streets," and so on; giving them the power. Therefore, what the amended Act does, is to give the powers which were possessed by the City of London and possessed by the parishes in the bills of mortality, to parishes other than the parishes in the bills of mortality, such as Chelsea, for instance; but it does not give any further powers to the Metropolitan Board of Works.

2014. Can we take a house in Chelsea compulsorily?—Yes.

2015. Our lawyers think that we cannot, and so an important improvement is left undone at the end of Sloane-street?—There is a limitation which I will bring before the Committee presently upon that subject. You thought that you could not do it, and I thought so at first, but upon further examination it appears that the powers which we possess are extended to Chelsea and other places, subject to that limitation.

2016. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Is this 80th section of the 57th of George 3rd, chapter 29, the section upon which you rely for your improvement powers?—No, that is the commencement of the sections. They are very extensive powers.

2017. Your whole contention is that section 73 does not give to the Metropolitan Board of Works those powers which are given by section 80 of the Act of 57th George the Third?—It does not. Upon this point, I wish to call the attention of the Committee to the 72nd section of the 25th and 26th Victoria, chapter 102, which was cited by Sir John Thwaites; because there comes in a limitation of the power which is given by the other Act to the local authorities. "The vestry of every parish mentioned in Schedule (A), to the firstly recited Act, and the district board of every district shall, with the previous consent in writing of the Metropolitan Board of Works, have power within their respective parish or district, to make, extend, widen, alter, or improve any street;" so that this power, which is the general power given to the authorities such as the parish of Chelsea, is limited by the 72nd section; and they must have the previous consent in writing of the Metropolitan Board of Works. But in the City the Metropolitan Board of Works are not allowed to interfere. We keep our powers, and those districts which are not included in the bills of mortality have the power given to them, but with a limitation that they must have the consent of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

W. Corrie, Esq.

11 April 1867.

2018. Mr. *Tite.*] That lets in then the uniform authority of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—It makes the Metropolitan Board of Works the authority outside the City of London. I have here a book by Mr. Woolrych, who was for many years, as the honourable Member knows, Secretary to the Metropolitan Board of Works, and that is the view which he takes of it.

2019. He is a police magistrate now, is he not?—He is.

2020. Mr. *Mill.*] Upon your construction of the Act the local authorities of the different districts can make those improvements with the consent of the Metropolitan Board of Works, but the Metropolitan Board of Works cannot itself make them?—The Metropolitan Board of Works cannot itself make them. They have no power to do so.

2021. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] And you carry it further, do you not, and say that in the City you have the power to make those improvements without its consent?—That is so.

2022. Mr. *Tite.*] You are very anxious at the present moment to widen Newgate-street; do you know the exact operation of the Act in that particular, when you want to take certain premises, and the parties who own them are unwilling to sell them?—The Act of Parliament explains in various clauses the machinery and the course of proceedings.

2023. Is there not, in fact, this power; that if the Commissioners of Sewers, under the compulsory powers of their Act, take a large house and pull it down, they are compelled to offer to the original owner the remainder which is left after the improvement is effected?—I cannot say that it is not so without looking at the Act.

2024. Then you have not heard that in the City the operation of that Act is impeded by this power?—I have not. There is something of the same sort in the Railway Acts, if they take more than they want; and it does not seem to me to be unfair.

2025. It is an effectual bar, is it not?—That would be rather a reason for giving greater powers. I do not know that it is an effectual bar. I should have thought that it was rather fair that the owner, if his property was taken away, and they only wanted to have a part of it, should have a right of pre-emption.

2026. That is not the case with those large improvements, because one main source of the return of the recouping power of those Acts for improvements enables the Metropolitan Board of Works, or the City, as the case may be, to sell the land *aliunde* to anybody who desires to buy it?—That is so in large improvements; but I should also say that I have had some little experience upon that point. We have had a case this year in the Holborn Valley. If an owner makes a case before a committee, and they declare that he ought to have it, he is allowed a clause, and he has it; but as a rule, I have no doubt that it is as the honourable Member says.

2027. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] That is the case of a special Act of Parliament, is it not?—Yes.

2028. Mr. *Tite.*] You mean that a clause is allowed by a Committee on the Bill?—By a Committee on the Bill. It is perhaps a small point, but Sir John Thwaites seemed to think

W. Corrie, Esq.

11 April 1867.

that I had made a mistake with reference to the powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works over the main sewers. I said that there was a more limited power given to the vestries than we have in the City of London. Of course, it would be absurd for me to say that the main sewers were not vested in the Metropolitan Board of Works; it was the great object of the Act of Parliament that they should be so vested; but what I alluded to was the 45th section of the 25th and 26th Vict. c. 102: "Any vestry or district board intending to construct any sewer shall, before commencing any works for that purpose, submit to the Metropolitan Board of Works a plan of the street or place in which it is proposed to construct such sewer, drawn to such a convenient scale or scales as the said Metropolitan Board shall direct; and there shall be shown on such plan the position, course, and dimensions of the proposed sewer, with a section or sections thereof, and such other particulars in relation thereto as the said Metropolitan Board shall deem necessary and require; and no such sewer or works shall be proceeded with without the approval, in writing, or contrary to the directions of the said Board. That is not at all applicable to us, and therefore I say that we have greater powers than the vestries have. I did not intend for one moment to say that the main sewers were not vested in the Metropolitan Board of Works. Then there are other sections: the 47th, the 48th, and the 50th, as to giving power to the Metropolitan Board of Works with reference to the sewers, but they are not applicable to the City of London. I also alluded to the 18th & 19th Vict. c. 120. Section 138 of that Act is as follows: "The Metropolitan Board of Works shall from time to time, in order to secure the efficient maintenance of the main and general sewerage of the metropolis, make such general or special order as to them may seem proper for the guidance, direction, and control of the vestries of parishes and district boards, in the levels, construction, alteration, and maintenance and cleansing of sewers in their respective parishes or districts," and so on; "and all such orders shall be binding upon such vestries and boards." But they have no power to make them with reference to the City of London, even with regard to the main drainage. Then the 137th section is this: "In case it appear to the Metropolitan Board of Works that any sewers in the metropolis not hereinbefore vested in such Board ought to be considered main sewers, and to be under their management, it shall be lawful for such Board, by an order under their seal, to declare the same to be main sewers, and thereupon the same shall vest in and be under the management of the said Board." Now, what I wish to call the attention of the Committee particularly to follows: "And it shall also be lawful for the said Board, by any such order, to take under their jurisdiction and authority any other matters in relation to sewerage and to drainage with respect to which jurisdiction or authority is by this Act vested" (not in the City of London, but) "in any vestry or district board." Therefore, they may take anything connected with the sewage outside the City, but they cannot interfere with it within the City. There is only one more observation with which I propose to trouble the Committee, and that is upon the Building Act of the 18th & 19th Vict. to which my attention was called by the honourable Member for Bath. By the fourth section of that Act all the powers of the Commissioners of Sewers are reserved to them.

2029. The Building Act was passed in the same year as the Metropolitan Board of Works was constituted, was it not?—It was.

2030. Do you imagine that the Metropolitan Board of Works sought the power of interfering with and controlling everything in the City, as regards buildings at that time?—Of course that could not have been so.

2031. Therefore that was not a power which they sought?—It was not.

2032. Now we come to a recent and much more important instance; do you think that they were anxious to undertake the management of the Fire Brigade, which goes over the whole metropolis, and which gives them the power of rating the City as well as every other district?—I do not know whether that was so, but if you ask my belief, it is that they are very anxious to get every possible power they can.

2033. You do not know it?—I do not know it.

2034. You do not know that Sir George Grey proposed to the Metropolitan Board of Works when the management of the fire engines broke down, that they should take it into their own hands, and that that passed into an Act of Parliament and became law?—I do not know anything that took place between the Metropolitan Board of Works and the Government.

2035. Do you think it is a fair allegation to say that the fourpenny rate, which has been so immensely petitioned against as a movement of the Metropolitan Board of Works, is inconsistent with all their previous statements, and with the evidence given by Sir John Thwaites and myself?—I never said it was inconsistent with their statement.

2036. Do you think it a fair statement to say that the Metropolitan Board of Works are seeking that?—When I find them introducing a Bill for that purpose, I certainly think that they are seeking it.

2037. But the honourable Chairman is introducing that Bill, and what has he to do with the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I find the name of the honourable Member for Bath also on the Bill, who is a member of the Board.

2038. That may be, because I think it right; but the honourable Chairman is not a member of the Board?—I do not want to go into private conversations, but I think there is no doubt that the Metropolitan Board of Works are doing it.

2039. Do you know this fact, that last year that very same Bill was to have been introduced by Mr. Goschen, who is returned for the City of London, and who was then a member of the Cabinet?—I will tell you exactly what I know upon the subject. I do not think that there was any secret upon the matter, because those negotiations were carried on by the Government. Mr. Gladstone was of opinion that if the coal duties were renewed there ought to be an improvement rate; then Mr. Goschen was entrusted with the conduct, if I may so say, of the negotiation, he being the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; and interviews took place with Mr. Goschen upon the subject, but he certainly would never have introduced this Bill, which would have taxed us and given the spending power to the Metropolitan Board of Works, because he expressly said that, if we objected to the Metropolitan Board of Works coming in and taxing us, and spending our money, he would not be a party to it.

2040. Was

2040. Was that in any Draft Bill that you have seen?—The Bill was never settled by the Government to be brought in last year, and he did not bring in the Bill.

2041. Do you know that of your own knowledge?—I can tell you from my own knowledge what Mr. Goschen said upon the subject.

2042. Now, this year again, do you know what steps have been taken with regard to this very Bill; are you aware that Lord John Manners himself undertook to bring it in?—His Lordship did not bring it in. We had several interviews with his Lordship.

2043. But you must know that?—I know that in the result he did not bring it in.

2044. He was directed by the Treasury not to bring it in; but do you not know that he was perfectly willing to bring it in, and then you, and other officials of the City saw him with regard to the reasonableness of having your views gone into?—Yes.

2045. And after that you proposed your City Improvement Bill for levying a rate of 6 *d.* in the pound for City improvements?—Our rate was proposed last year.

2046. I do not speak of last year, was it not so this year?—You were speaking before of last year.

2047. But this year have not communications taken place with the noble Lord, and is it not understood that the wishes and intentions of the Government are these; that if the coal duty is given to the City, and to the Metropolitan Board of Works for a continued term, it should be upon the condition of an improvement rate being carried through the House; and is not everything stopped until that is done?—I feel some difficulty in answering the question, though not in saying that; I believe that was not his Lordship's determination.

2048. In consequence of that communication is it, or is it not true, that the City of London brought in a Bill which gave a sixpenny improvement rate chargeable upon the owner, for the purpose of effecting improvements in the City?—Certainly not; the Bill of the City of London was resolved upon, drawn, and deposited in the Private Bill Office last year, and therefore it had nothing to do with their Bill; the Board of Works were not ready with their Bill.

2049. The Metropolitan Board of Works never had anything to do with the Bill, except in consenting to appropriate it. You are mistaken all through; Mr. Goschen had charge of the Bill, and whether or not it was to contain the clauses to which you have referred, was another question. Do you think that it is fair to allege as you have done in your evidence this morning, that the Metropolitan Board of Works are seeking to tax the whole of the metropolis on any evidence which you have before you at the present moment, except the fact of my name being at the back of the Bill?—Certainly, I think it quite fair; of course we cannot go into the lobby of the House of Commons without seeing the Chairman there very anxious upon the subject.

2050. What subject?—The Improvement Bill; I have not the slightest difficulty in saying that I believe it.

2051. You believe what?—That the Metropolitan Board of Works are promoting that Improvement Rate Bill.

2052. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Whose names are on the back of the Bill?—Mr. Ayrton's and Mr. Tite's.

2053. You have been asked with respect to the coal tax and the improvement rate; the coal tax was to have been extended for a lengthened period, and upon it money was to be raised; it was to be divided into two parts, was it not; one portion for the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the other portion for the City of London?—Yes.

2054. And the same view was taken with respect to any improvement rate, I believe. An improvement rate would be for the metropolis outside the City of London; and if there is an improvement rate, it would be for the City of London to make their own improvements rate, would it not?—We went for our own improvement rate, and we did not interfere with the other matter.

2055. With respect to the carrying out of new streets, the new street and embankment has been referred to, which was handed over to the Metropolitan Board of Works to carry out; was it not a specific charge by Parliament to the Board of Works to carry out that?—Yes.

2056. And you consider that in the case of any general improvement to be carried out, Parliament should decide to whom that charge should be given?—That is my own opinion; but I do not say that it is the opinion of the City authorities.

2057. And, is it your opinion that the Metropolitan Board of Works should not possess a general power over the whole metropolis, to plan and carry out a large improvement, such as a large street or viaduct, or further embankment of the Thames, without obtaining the sanction and improvement of Parliament?—Yes.

2058. But that the local authorities should have the power of carrying out local improvements under their immediate authority?—Yes, that is what they have at present. I think it is right to continue it. The law is in a very wholesome state, as it is with regard to those local improvements.

2059. Are you aware how the great improvements of the metropolis outside the City of London were planned and carried out previously to the establishment of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—The City did several. I do not know whether the honourable Member alludes to the Clerkenwell improvements which they carried out, as I have already stated. Commissioners were appointed in the first instance, and they stuck fast; and then the City of London took it up, and carried it out.

2060. I allude to Regent-street, the Strand, and Trafalgar-square?—I believe they were made by the Government Board of Works.

2061. And Endell-street, New Oxford-street, and Commercial-street, Whitechapel?—Yes.

2062. Are you aware that any great improvement has been planned or carried out by the Metropolitan Board of Works up to the present time?—I have heard of such things being planned, that is in evidence before the Committee; but I am not aware that they have originated any very grand work.

2063. The Thames Embankment and the new street are the products of a commission, are they not?—Yes.

2064. The Southwark-street had been planned and talked of for some 10 or a dozen years before the establishment of the Metropolitan Board of Works, had it not?—So I understand.

2065. Do you think that, as the Metropolitan Board of Works is at present constituted, there would

W. Corrie, Esq.

11 April 1867.

would be great difficulty in their planning any great improvement which should give satisfaction to the general public, in consequence of the constitution of that Board?—I think so.

2066. Do you think that the representatives from those districts where the streets are wide, and where there are open spaces, such as squares, and where the traffic circulates freely, look with a jealous eye upon the expenditure of money upon districts at the east end of the metropolis, where the streets are narrow, and where the traffic does not flow so easily?—I should not like to give an opinion about that; I do not know what their thoughts may be upon the subject.

2067. But have you not observed, when you were a member of the Metropolitan Board of Works, that those contrarieties of opinion did arise from members representing different districts, when attempts were made to lay out money?—I think, when I was a member of that Board, we were so occupied with the main drainage, that we thought of little else, and had not time to think of other matters.

2068. Mr. *Tite.*] Have you heard of the Metropolitan Board of Works having authorised out of their common fund the pulling down of the Middle-row, Holborn, in continuation of your improvement?—Yes, there is an Act of Parliament for that.

2069. Have you heard, also, of the street which they are making at an expense of nearly 300,000 *l.*, to improve the approach to the Commercial-road?—Yes; that is, I think, out of the coal duty.

2070. It is out of the ordinary rating; have you heard of those things?—Of course; those are Acts of Parliament.

2071. Those are two improvements which they have originated, are they not?—I think you will find, if I am not very much mistaken, that the expenses are paid out of the coal and wine duties.

2072. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you aware that several suggestions have been made to the Board to open commodious thoroughfares into Lincoln's Inn Fields, and that nothing has been yet planned or carried out?—I have heard a suggestion about Chancery-lane.

2073. And the two Turnstiles?—I have heard of them.

2074. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you not know that the Board are waiting to see what the effect of this great building there is, and whether the Government will not take those improvements into their own hands and do it themselves?—I have heard of that.

2075. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] How long were you a member of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—About two years, I believe.

2076. Did you find that they had not sufficient power then for the works that were under them?—No. At the time when I was a member of the Board it was necessary that their plans should be first approved by the Commissioner of Works, and a plan was prepared and sent up to the Commissioner, but it was not approved, and therefore no question arose as to the power of executing works at that time.

Mr. John Thomas Bedford, called in; and Examined.

Mr. J. T. Bedford.

2077. Mr. *Mill.*] Are you an Officer of the Corporation?—I am a Commissioner of Sewers. It has been stated that the right of pre-emption operated in the City of London as a bar in carrying out our local improvements under the Act of Parliament; I say, in reply, as a member of the Commission, that we never found anything of the kind, and never had the point raised. It never operated to the slightest extent against our carrying out our full powers. Our powers are almost unlimited, and we had a decision in the Court of Chancery last year which confirmed that view. We have very large powers, and we exercise them very fully. Nothing stops us but want of funds. I may say that, at the present moment, we have laid down and commenced lines in the City of London, which will cost to carry out between 800,000 *l.* and 900,000 *l.* No right of pre-emption ever stops us for one single day.

2078. I understand the right of pre-emption to consist merely in the obligation which the City of London is under, to give the owner of the land the first offer of buying back any portion of that land which is not wanted by them for their improvements?—Quite so.

2079. But if they refuse to buy it back, then it is open to the public in the same manner as if no right of pre-emption had ever existed?—Quite so.

2080. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you know the improvement at the end of Bartholomew-lane?—Yes.

2081. Have you ever been hindered there by that difficulty?—No.

2082. Do you know that of your own knowledge?—I do.

2083. Do you not know that a certain public body offered to carry out that improvement, but were hindered by the fact that when the property was bought they could not use it for their own purposes?—So far from that being the case, we were about purchasing it three months ago.

2084. But are you aware that the funds were all found?—I never heard that mentioned.

2085. Mr. *Mill.*] The City is not bound to sell land to the original owner of it at his own price, but only at the same price which they can obtain for it from others?—A fair market price. With regard to the taxation of the City of London, which I believe is within the province of this Committee, I would say that the difficulty which all local bodies are finding now is that the taxation is so heavy in the poor neighbourhoods, that we really have come, we may say, to the full extent to which we can tax them, and the Board of Works will find that out as we are finding it out. I speak now of my own knowledge of my own district, the parish of St. Sepulchre, in the City of London. The rates there are very high, being something like 7 *s.* in the pound. I will give the Committee an instance of the difficulty of collecting the rates. The poor-rate last Michaelmas quarter in my parish was 1 *s.* 3 *d.* in the pound, which was at the rate of 5 *s.* a year; at the end of the quarter when the whole of that rate should have been paid in, out of 2,200 *l.* there were 1,300 *l.* in arrear. This will give an idea of the great difficulty of collecting those rates, and they are constantly increasing. Great complaints are made of the Commissioners of Sewers that they are constantly

constantly increasing the sewers rate; but the explanation is this, if the Commissioners of Sewers had only to expend that sewers rate in the City of London, a penny in the pound would be amply sufficient, because our sewers are completed, but the Metropolitan Board of Works call upon us to pay large sums towards improvements or towards their general expenses without the City which raises that rate from 1 *d.* to 4 *d.*

2086. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Do you say that the local taxation, in your opinion, has reached its limit?—I am quite sure that it has.

2087. Then you do not agree with the proposition which the City of London brought before this Committee to raise a sixpenny rate?—That was only upon owners.

2088. Mr. *Alderman Lawrence.*] Can you state the number of summonses which have been taken out for those arrears of which you have spoken?—I have not the number of summonses, but I have the fact that half remained uncollected when the next rate was made. There is this rather striking fact, also, with regard to the inequality of the rating, the City of London is divided into three Unions; the City Union, the East London Union, and the West London Union. Nearly all the wealth of the City is in the City of London Union, the centre Union; all the poverty, or nearly so, is in the East and West London Unions; and the consequence is, that while in Lombard-street, and Broad-street, and similar streets, the poor rate last year was 8 *d.* in the pound, in my district it was 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, and in the East London Union 4 *s.* There is, therefore, this striking anomaly, that the City of London Union, with a rateable value of 1,750,000 *l.*, pays only a rate of 8 *d.* in the pound, and expended only 50,000 *l.* in the relief of the poor, while the other two Unions, with a mere rateable value of 350,000 *l.*, or less than one-fifth, were rated at 3 *s.* 6 *d.* and 4 *s.* in the pound, and expended 60,000 *l*, upon the poor.

2089. Mr. *Tite.*] That is a question of the inequality of the poors rating, is it not?—Quite so; I presume that that is part of the inquiry before the Committee.

2090. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Are you going to draw any inference from that bearing upon the local government of the metropolis?—Not as to local government, but as to the local taxation; the local taxation is constantly increasing, and will go on increasing very rapidly. Bills are before Parliament now, one of which has passed, and the other of which is going to pass, for increasing the taxation; and that will make its collection still more difficult.

2091. Is not your argument, then, leading to the equalisation of poor rates over an enlarged area of taxation?—Quite so; to the equalisation of poor rates in the City itself.

2092. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Why should it be confined to the City of London itself?—They have their separate institutions.

2093. Upon what principle do you say that the equalisation of poor rates should stop on one side of Chancery-lane?—I do not say that it should stop.

2094. Then I misunderstood you. Your argument, in reply to my honourable friend, is, that it is a most unjust thing that while you pay a poor rate of 3 *s.* 6 *d.* in the pound, Broad-street should only pay a rate of 8 *d.* in the pound; and therefore you would desire to see an equalisation of the poor rate in the City of London; but do you think that the area within which that rate should be equalised should stop on one side of Chancery-lane, or Holborn Bars, or whatever the City limit may be?—I see a great danger in making the area too large; I think that it would lead to extravagance.

2095. Mr. *Mill.*] Is there any other subject connected with the general question of the government of the metropolis to which you wish to direct the attention of the Committee?—I may say that the Metropolitan Board of Works is exceedingly unpopular in my neighbourhood. I do not know that they deserve it; but it is because all the increased taxation springs from them.

2096. So that you consider that a great portion of the City of London is generally overtaxed, and therefore they dislike any authority over them which imposes more taxes?—Quite so. With regard to the local government of the metropolis, having given some little attention to the matter, I may say that I should generally approve of municipalities for the Parliamentary boroughs, and that some body emanating from them for special objects might be appointed where the matters in hand affected the whole metropolis. That seems to be the popular opinion out of doors wherever I go.

2097. Mr. *Tite.*] Wherein does that differ from the present system?—I would have the matter more thoroughly under the control of the ratepayers.

2098. What matter?—Every matter which comes before the special Board, supposing there are municipalities for the whole metropolis.

2099. Do you mean that instead of having vestries or district boards, you would have a Lord Mayor, a Court of Aldermen, and a common council in each municipality?—Not a Lord Mayor, but a mayor; and those mayors might form a committee, or they, with one or two of the aldermen from each municipality, might form a committee for carrying out metropolitan improvements.

2100. In what way would that differ from the present system?—Very much.

2101. In what way?—They would be elected separately by the ratepayers.

2102. How are the vestries and district boards elected?—The members of the Metropolitan Board of Works are elected for three years.

2103. That is not the point; how are the vestries elected now?—I do not know.

2104. Then are you not finding fault with that which you really do not know?—No; I am finding fault with the constitution of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

2105. Are you not finding fault without knowing how the body who return the Metropolitan Board of Works is itself elected?—That is not the point upon which I am speaking. I am suggesting a method of getting rid of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and appointing a body for the superintendence of works, which affect the whole metropolis.

2106. And to do that you are suggesting that municipalities should be elected, consisting of a mayor, aldermen, and common council?—Yes.

2107. I ask you in principle wherein that differs from the constitution of the vestry of Chelsea, or of St. George's, Hanover-square?—It differs a great deal.

2108. In what way?—In the first place they would be responsible directly to their constituents.

Mr. *J. T. Bedford.*
— —
11 April 1867.

2109. The members of the district boards?—No, but the Metropolitan Improvement Committee that I am suggesting. I do not know anything at all about vestries.

2110. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] If you were informed that the vestries and district boards are elected from the ratepayers in the same manner that you would propose the commons of the municipalities to be elected, you would be rather surprised, would you not?—No.

2111. But if that is the case, would not your argument rather fall to the ground?—I think not.

2112. If the vestries and district boards are now elected from the ratepayers, as you propose the members of the municipalities to be, what improvement do you see in electing under another name practically the same body?—In the first place you would have a different class of people.

2113. Why?—You would select a different class of people to be aldermen and magistrates.

2114. Mr. *Tite.*] Are the aldermen to be magistrates?—I should think so.

2115. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] If the Corporation were elected annually, the aldermen would be elected annually, I presume, because I suppose you would have the aldermen elected from the members of the Corporation?—No. The aldermen of the City of London are elected directly by the ratepayers, and for life.

2116. Not by the members of the Common Council?—No.

2117. Is it not the case throughout England that in the municipalities the council elect the aldermen?—I am only speaking of my own knowledge of my own city. I like direct representation; that is my idea.

2118. Are not the vestries elected by direct representation?—Yes.

2119. Is it in your opinion only because of the name of common council being more popular than the name of vestrymen, and because of the dignity of an alderman being superior to anything existing in a vestry, that you would get a superior class of persons in those municipalities to those who are now elected in vestries?—That may be one reason.

2120. Is there any other reason?—We find that gentlemen are willing to devote a large portion of their time to an office which bears with it a certain amount of dignity and importance; and the greater the amount of dignity and importance, as in the House of Commons and elsewhere, the more is the office sought after and coveted.

2121. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you think that the extent of the suggested municipalities, as compared with the extent of the districts under the district boards, would have much to do with the result which you anticipate?—I should think so.

2122. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Do you think that the position of an alderman of Westminster would be a dignified position?—I think so; and persons would be very anxious to fill it.

2123. Mr. *Tite.*] Probably you have seen a list of the vestry of St. George's, Hanover-square?—I look upon St. George's, Hanover-square, as an exception.

2124. That may be so; but it is not so in my experience; but taking any large parish, if you have any experience of large parishes, do you think that the dignity of the position of aldermen and common councilmen would be increased by having a parish as big as St. George's, Hanover-square, added to St. George's, Hanover-square?—I think so in five cases out of six.

2125. How large are the districts in the City?—They are not large in area, but they are of very great importance.

2126. Do you mean very great in amount of value?—Yes.

2127. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Do you think there is any possibility of the value of the position of the aldermen of the City of London being lessened by the creation of a large number of other aldermen round the City?—I do not.

2128. Mr. *Tite.*] The one being elected for life, and the others annually?—Yes; the City is peculiar to itself.

2129. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Do you think those municipalties, if elected, ought to have the control of their police?—Yes.

2130. Would you wish to see all London divided into different police districts, each administered by a separate jurisdiction?—Decidedly; I look upon the police as a civil force, not as an adjunct to the army.

2131. Would you like to have one set of police on one side of Oxford-street, and another set of police on the other side?—Decidedly.

2132. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you think they would work well together?—I have not the slightest doubt they would.

2133. Mr. *Bentinck.*] Have you anything to do with the police in the City?—No.

2134. Do you know anything about them?—I reside in the City.

2135. Do you know the orders which are given to them?—No.

2136. Have you sufficient knowledge of the working of the police to be able to say whether there is perfect harmony between them and the metropolitan police?—I must have heard of it if there had been any want of harmony.

2137. But you do not know of it?—I do not know of it.

2138. Do you think these municipalities, when elected, ought each to have from 3,000 *l.* to 5,000 *l.* a year to spend in entertainments?—That is a matter for themselves.

2139. But I ask you whether you think so; a witness who has appeared before this Committee to give evidence in favour of the municipalities, has given it as his opinion that each of those municipalities when elected ought to have a sum of from 3,000 *l.* to 5,000 *l.* a year to spend in public entertainments; would you think it desirable that each of those municipalities should have a large sum at its disposal to expend in entertainments?—I think that that is a matter of trifling importance, and I have not given my mind to it.

2140. But no matter whether it is a matter of trifling importance or not, what do you think about it; do you think that that sum should be provided out of the rates for that purpose?—Certainly not.

2141. Mr. *Tite.*] Will you kindly address yourself for a moment to this. I presume that everybody concedes that the great improvements which are wanted in London are beyond the City; have you ever turned your attention to how those improvements are to be made, if the Government refuse the coal duty?—I should think if there were municipalities it would be entrusted to those municipalities to decide whether those improvements were to take place, and if the street passed through two or three of them they

they would form a committee of their own body to carry that out.

2142. But, as regards the rating?—I should think the coal dues ought to be applied for that purpose.

2143. You mean to say you think the Government ought to give the coal dues for improvements?—I do, in the metropolis.

2144. Do you think the coal duty presses heavily upon the poor?—It is not felt; it is the merest trifle in the world.

2145. Do you know the quantity of coal which is attributed to each poor person?—I do not believe it would make a difference of a shilling in the year to each poor man.

2146. You would continue that system?—I would.

2147. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Do you think the coals in your poor district would be any cheaper to those who buy them in quantities of 7lbs., 14lbs., and 28lbs., if the coal duty were taken off to-morrow?—I do not.

2148. Mr. *Locke.*] If the local duty were taken off, and coals were much cheaper, do you not think they might take off some amount of cost?—It would be a trifling sum, about 13*d.* a ton.

2149. Mr. *Kekewich.*] You live in the parish of St. Sepulchre, do you not?—I do.

2150. What is the total amount of rates in the pound paid in the parish?—About 6*s.* 9*d.*

2151. What proportion of that is the poor rate?—Three shillings and sixpence.

2152. Then the remaining 3*s.* 3*d.* goes for what?—The consolidated rate, sewage rate, main drainage rate, police rate, ward rate, &c.

2153. Then it is not those rates which bear heavily upon the ratepayers, but the poor rate?—They all bear heavily, but the poor rate is the largest rate; the poor rate is about half; that is very heavy in a poor parish.

Benjamin Scott, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

2154. Mr. *Mill.*] You gave the Committee on a former occasion a great deal of information upon the subject of the local administration of the City; but you have turned your attention, I believe, to the more general question of improving the local administration of the metropolis; will you kindly put the Committee in possession of your opinions upon that subject?—I shall be very happy to do so; but previously to doing it, I was requested to put in two documents, which I had not with me on a former occasion; the first is a list of the improvements and public works conducted by the Corporation, of which Mr. Corrie in his evidence gave a very insufficient account. The account includes all public works and improvements from the date of the building of Blackfriars Bridge.

2155. Mr. *Locke.*] What was the date of the Building Act?—That is the Act of 1759; from that period, for more than a hundred years, the Corporation have been continuously employed either out of their own funds, or out of the funds which Parliament have confided to them, in carrying out improvements, and works of various kinds, and those are specified in this paper (*handing in the same*, vide *Appendix*).

2156. Have the Corporation any plan laid down for general improvements in the City?—There have been at various periods plans of that kind devised by the Improvement Committee, some of which have been carried out; but the suggested improvements are very numerous, and the greater portion of them remain to be attended to.

2157. But if I recollect rightly, there was a general plan laid down some years back of all the improvements that were necessary in the City, was there not?—There was by the Improvement Committee.

2158. Have you that with you?—I have not a copy of that Report with me.

2159. Was there not likewise a map of the City of London made out with all the intended improvements represented upon it?—There was a map of that kind appended to a Report, which was taken up to the Court of Common Council, and printed by them; if the Committee wish for a copy of it, no doubt it could be obtained.

2160. Mr. *Mill.*] Have you another paper to put in?—There is one other document which I was requested to put in. The noble Lord questioned a statement which I made that in 1863, Mr. Cowper, his predecessor in office, had offered to the Corporation that they should undertake to make the new street from Blackfriars to the Mansion House. I stated that I was under the impression that there had been such a letter written, and with the permission of the Committee I will put in the letter; it shows that had the Corporation at that time been disposed to find the funds, Mr. Cowper conceded that they were the proper parties to make the street. There was no principle laid down at that time (it is since the year 1855), that all the improvements were to be made by the Metropolitan Board of Works, but Mr. Cowper recognises by this letter that the municipality were the proper persons to spend the coal duties, and that it should be offered to them first if they could find the funds. The answer of the Corporation was, that the Holborn Valley Viaduct would exhaust the funds which they had at their disposal; and it was offered to the Metropolitan Board of Works as an alternative. (*The letter was handed in*, vide *Appendix.*)

2161. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With respect to the members of the Court of Common Council and the Court of Aldermen in case of insolvency or bankruptcy what happens to those members?—The Act of Parliament which was obtained a few years back, which altered the constituency of the City provides that any member of the Corporation becoming bankrupt, or insolvent, or compounding with his creditors, is disqualified from being a member of the Corporation.

2162. He ceases to be a member?—He ceases to be a member.

2163. What is the course taken by the Court of Common Council in respect to any member elected to that court who had not paid 20*s.* in the pound?—I believe only one case of the kind has happened since the Act passed, and the Court of Common Council decided that the individual should not sit on committees.

2164. With respect to the officers of the Corporation before they are elected, have they to make any declaration with regard to that matter?—I do not know whether it applies to all the offices, but I know that in some of the offices they are required to make a declaration to that effect.

2165. They are asked if they have ever failed in

B. Scott, Esq.

11 April 1867.

in paying 20 *s.* in the pound, are they not?—It is a very common practice as regards some of the officers, but I do not know whether it applies to all. It applies to all those officers elected by the Court of Common Council, certainly.

2166. With respect to the livery companies with which you are thoroughly acquainted, what is the course pursued in such a case?—It is a very common thing to make it a disqualification to have failed in business.

2167. With respect to becoming a member of a court of a livery company, does that act as a disqualification?—It is an almost universal disqualification.

2168. Is it not a fact that in many of the courts of the livery companies, a man has to sign a declaration that if at any time he shall not be able to pay 20 *s.* in the pound, he shall cease to be a member of that court?—It is a very common regulation, but I cannot say that it applies to all.

2169. So that the livery companies and the Common Council have a great power in maintaining and upholding the commercial feeling in the City, and a man does not take there the same position when he has failed to pay 20 *s.* in the pound as one who is able to do so?—That is so.

2170. Mr. *Mill.*] Will you kindly enter into the general subject of the municipal government of the metropolis?—I may say that I have given a good deal of attention to this subject. I have been connected with the Corporation for 37 years, and it is a subject that has frequently occupied my thoughts. I entertain a very decided opinion that the only satisfactory government of the metropolis will arise out of the enfranchisement of all the districts of the metropolis in the way of giving them municipal institutions. Anciently the plan was to take in the surrounding districts as they became populated. The Committee are doubtless aware that the ancient City of London, within the walls, was a very small district, and that from time to time during several centuries the Out Wards were added by charter from the Crown, so that the City became in time three times its original magnitude. The ancient City of London was only one-third of the magnitude of the extended city. After that system had existed for several centuries there was a great deal of jealousy on the part of the Crown of the increasing power of the City, and it is a matter of fact and a matter of history, which is known no doubt to the members of this Committee, that Parliament endeavoured to arrest the increase, not only of the growth of the City of London, but to arrest the building of houses. That was particularly the case in the times of the Tudors and the Stuarts, but it was found to be useless, and London continued to grow. I may I think admit also that not only a difficulty arose in consequence of the jealousy of the Government on account of the increase of the powers of the Corporation, but that there was something like a short-sighted policy on the part of the Corporation in not seeking more than they did to take in the surrounding districts. The result is that a very small portion of the metropolis is enfranchised for local and municipal purposes, whilst all the provincial large and second-rate towns and cities, and a great proportion of the third-rate towns and cities have received municipal institutions; and the question now arises and is thrust upon us, so that it cannot be very well avoided what should be the future government of London.

2171. Mr. *Locke.*] Before you leave this point about the enlargement of the City (you have given your attention to the subject with reference to the borough of Southwark) will you state in what reign it was that a charter was given to the City of London to incorporate the borough of Southwark with the City of London?—I am not able to state it from memory; but I think very likely that the honourable Member being well informed upon that point can supply that.

2172. Was it in the reign of King Edward VI.?—I believe that it was about that period, but I could not say with certainty.

2173. Are you aware of the position of Southwark with reference to the City of London at the present time?—There is a slight connection. The charter did not authorise the Corporation to place Southwark in the same position in which the City was and fully to enfranchise it, but there was a *quasi* connection established between them.

2174. Are you aware of this fact, that the charter empowered the Corporation of London to form Southwark into a ward, with an alderman and common council, representing Southwark in the Corporation of the City of London?—I believe that was so.

2175. That was a power given to the City of London?—Yes.

2176. Are you aware how far they exercised that power?—I believe an alderman was appointed for the ward of Bridge Without, as it was called.

2177. Did they appoint any common councilmen?—I think not.

2178. Are you not quite certain that they did not?—No doubt they did not.

2179. They appointed a high bailiff, and they apppoint him still?—Yes.

2180. Although they have reduced his salary from 700 *l.* a year to 100 *l.*; are you aware of that?—I believe his duties and his salary too have collapsed, or I have understood so.

2181. They have likewise a town hall, and an alderman used to sit at the town hall as magistrate for that part of the locality; was that so?—They had before the passing of certain Acts of Parliament.

2182. What were those certain Acts of Parliament?—An Act for appointing the police and for appointing a stipendiary magistrate for Southwark, drew away from the Southwark Court the duties which were performed at the Town Hall. The magistrate appointed by the Court of Aldermen became useless; the Town Hall became vacant for purposes of justice, and it being the property of the Bridge House Estates, it was sold.

2183. Ordinary houses are now built upon the site, and the City receives a rent for them, does it not?—The Bridge House Estates are benefited to the extent of the rent which is received.

2184. And Southwark is not benefited at all, is it?—Except to a very slight extent.

2185. What is the slight extent to which it is benefited?—There is still a high bailiff performing certain duties; the coroner is paid by the City to perform the duties, and there are one or two minor officers.

2186. Is there not likewise a court?—There is a Court Leet.

2187. But is there not likewise a Debts Court?—There is a Small Debts Court.

2188. But

2188. But it goes to any extent, does it not?—I am not aware, not having any connection with the law.

2189. Are you aware that Mr. Serjeant Payne is the judge of that court?—Yes.

2190. And he holds his courts from time to time now?—Yes; I have admitted in the statement which I made, before the honourable Member put his question, that in addition to the great jealousy which has been manifested by the Crown to extending the powers and limits of the City; there has been, in ancient times, a great amount of shortsightedness on the part of the City in not extending its limits when it had the opportunity.

2191. But here they had the occasion entirely, because a charter was given to them, and they were empowered to incorporate Southwark with the City, and did not do it?—There was a legal difficulty, into which I am not prepared to enter. The Recorder or the Common Serjeant, if they were here, would be able to explain that, no doubt.

2192. But would not that legal difficulty have equally applied to nominating the alderman, as to the common councilmen?—I think not, because the appointment of the alderman has been a merely nominal appointment; he has no jurisdiction. The senior of the Court of Aldermen takes that office, that he may be relieved from duty.

2193. There being no common councilmen there, and you not having made it a ward of the City of London, consequently the alderman has nominal duties; but if you had followed out the charter, that would not have been the case, would it?—I am under the impression, though I am open to correction, that if common councilmen had been appointed, theirs would also have been nominal appointments, the same as that of the alderman; and that the powers were not sufficient for the City to govern Southwark in the same way that it was enabled to govern Bishopsgate Without, and Aldgate, and other outlying districts, which were entirely taken into the City.

2194. Do you recollect a book written by the late Mr. George Corner upon the subject?—I recollect that there was such a book; but I do not recollect reading it.

2195. Do you recollect that from time to time he made application to the Corporation of London to fulfil the duties imposed upon them by that charter?—He did, and it was inquired into before committees, and my impression is that the reports of those committees show that difficulties existed.

2196. Which the Corporation were not anxious to overcome?—They did not apply to Parliament, I believe, to overcome them, and that is where I think they were deficient.

2197. Nor to the Crown, nor to anybody?—I believe not.

2198. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Is not Southwark benefited by the opening of Southwark Bridge by charges on those very Bridge-house Estates which have been alluded to?—Southwark has been benefited by the opening of three bridges which the City has erected, London Bridge, Blackfriars Bridge, and now, by an Act which is just passed, they are purchasing Southwark bridge and making it a free bridge.

2199. The Coroner of Southwark is paid by the City, is he not?—He is.

2200. Mr. *Tite.*] If there had been a common council appointed by the Borough, they would have had a very considerable constituency as well as any other part of the City. There is no reason from the nature of things, is there, that there should not have been the same state of things as in Aldgate?—I believe there was no reason, but there has been a legal difficulty which one of our law officers would be able to explain.

2201. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] Are you aware that the aldermen who formerly used to sit as magistrates for the sessions business in the Borough were prevented from doing so in consequence of the Commissioner of Police issuing orders that no case should be brought before them, but that it should be taken before the stipendiary magistrate, and that so their jurisdiction fell to the ground?—I have stated that, through the Police Act and the appointment of a stipendiary magistrate, it fell to the ground, but I am not aware of the particular circumstances.

2202. Are you not aware that the aldermen have jurisdiction at the present moment in Southwark, only that no cases are brought before them by the police?—I believe that that is the case; I have stated what had been the principle for several centuries for extending municipal power to London as it grew. About the time of the Tudor dynasty, that principle appears to have been laid aside; and from that time there has grown up that confusion, that conflicting jurisdiction, and that diversity of administration which exists now in the metropolis, and which it is very desirable should be remedied; I am of opinion, having looked at the subject very carefully, and particularly for the last few years, that the only remedy for that confusion is to apply to London the principles which Parliament has applied to the provinces in England and Wales; that is to say, that where there is a large aggregation of persons forming an urban population, municipal institutions should be extended to them; I believe it is the opinion of Parliament that those institutions have worked satisfactorily in provincial towns. There was an Act passed within our memory for reforming the constitution of 208 of those bodies (all the important ones), and that Act appears to have recognised their importance, their usefulness, and their adaptability to the purposes for which they were created; and I can conceive no reason why London should not enjoy the same advantages as are accorded to Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, and all the large towns of the kingdom. If there is any difference in principle between the two cases, it is in favour of London, and not in favour of the provinces, because London is certainly the most important district in the empire, and requires good order and government more than any other district in the empire, because of its enormous aggregated wealth and population. Moreover, I contend that it is the most intelligent district in the empire, taking it altogether. It is the seat during the greater part of the year of the Court, the aristocracy, and the Members of Parliament; and it is the centre of literature and journalism, and all the learned and educational societies have their head quarters here, with the exception of the colleges at Oxford and Cambridge. It is unquestionably a district possessing as much intelligence as any district that can be found in proportion to its population; and I can conceive no reason in the world why the same privileges and advantages should not be extended

B. Scott, Esq

11 April 1867.

to the metropolis as are extended to the provincial towns.

2203. Mr. *Mill.*] In what particular form would you give municipal government to the metropolis? —I am disposed to think that it is too large to create one corporation out of. Parliament seems already to have settled that principle in dividing Manchester and Salford into two municipalities.

2204. Mr. *Locke.*] They do not join, do they? —They are only divided by a river; Liverpool and Birkenhead are divided. I do not know that there is any very formidable difficulty to making one corporation of the whole, but I think there would be considerable opposition to it and the Commissioners of 1854 reported very decidedly and strongly against it. They said it was "a province covered with houses," and that it should be divided into at least six or seven municipalities. I am not one of those who share in the apprehension which is I think very general, in Parliament and out of it, that if London were made into one corporation it would be an overwhelming power, and that it would almost dictate to Parliament in political matters. I have the greatest possible confidence in the representative principle, and I believe that if men in this country and indeed in any country are fairly dealt with and fairly represented, and their views allowed to be heard, there is no reason why they should be feared even though they may amount to 3,000,000 of people.

2205. Mr. *Mill.*] You do not think there would be any difficulty in keeping such a body within its proposed functions, namely, those of local government only?—I do not think there would be any difficulty, or that any Government need entertain apprehension. The instinct of people is that they should be well governed; and the trading class, who generally are represented on municipal bodies, desire nothing more than peace, quiet, and order for the protection of themselves, and for the prosecution of their trade. But, passing by that, and believing and admitting that there is a very great objection to the creation of one great corporation, the next thing that presents itself is, a division of the metropolis into districts for municipal government; and then the only question that remains is as to the number of those districts. There is a Bill which has been laid before this Committee by Mr. Beal, which divides London extra, that is excluding the City, into 10 municipalities. They appear to me to be very convenient as regards their magnitude, the number of their population, and their rateable values; and they seem to be very conveniently placed around the old centre, the City. There are some persons who contend (and there is a good deal in what they say) that 10 would be too many, and perhaps there is something in their objection that the multiplication of mayors, and aldermen, and officers of corporations would be too much if there were 10; but it must be remembered that all of them are growing and rapidly extending outwards; and I am afraid that if there were less than that number they would in 10 or 20 years become somewhat unmanageable, and the limits would have to be extended. Upon the whole, I incline, after a good deal of reflection, to the scheme which Mr. Beal has submitted, but I did not see it until it was submitted to this Committee, and I approve generally of that scheme. There is one thing respecting it which has occurred to me; I think it is most desirable that whilst you are dividing London, supposing it should be decided to do so for those purposes, there should be as much as possible uniformity of boundaries for all purposes. Now Mr. Beal's plan does not attain this, and it would require some modification. The police district lies outside the limit. If we had a map it would be more easy to put it before you. The Parliamentary limits are not in every case conterminous with the proposed municipal limits. It is not a whole Parliamentary borough that is taken, nor is it always half a Parliamentary borough, but a little variation might make it so that the Parliamentary and municipal boundaries might be conterminous. Then the Member for that borough would be in accord with the municipal authorities for that borough, and if he wanted to consult them he would know their feelings. Then again the coal duty boundary is not conterminous with this, it extends some little distance into the country. I think it is a matter worthy of inquiry whether it would not be desirable to extend the rural parts of the boundary, so as to take in the collection of the coal duty, and then the coal duty would be expended in the district taxed, and the parties who pay the duty would be represented.

2206. Does not the coal duty extend to such a very great distance from the metropolis proper, that the effect would be to introduce so large a population as would interfere with the purposes of the municipality?—It extends for a radius of several miles further in most places. The coal duty boundary, according to a Return placed before the House of Commons, extends from 13½ or 14 miles to 16 miles from Charing-cross, whereas the proposed limits of Mr. Beal's Bill extend from about 9 to 12 miles, I think, from Charing-cross. There would be an addition of a good deal of geographical territory, but very little would have to be added as regards population and rateable value.

2207. Do you think that, to make the district from which the funds were derived co-extensive with the authority that would dispose of those funds, would be an advantage which would overcome any disadvantage there might be in including a rural population?—I think so. I think that it is very desirable that the people in the district should feel that they are represented; and there is this further advantage, that the police boundary is conterminous with the coal duty boundary, so that you would have whatever police regulations were made extending over the whole borough, and not into only a part of that borough. I conceive that it might be very inconvenient whilst you are regulating and endeavouring to reduce the irregularities which exist in the metropolis to introduce a fresh irregularity; you would then have the police extending into part of the district, and then extending beyond the district, whereas it would be very desirable whilst the arrangement is being made to make the districts conterminous for Parliamentary representation, for Municipal representation, for Coal duty collection, and for Police administration. The arrangement of those boroughs in Mr. Beal's Bill is convenient, because they are so arranged that the lines of communication through the districts all radiate through them to the centre, and if they were extended outwards along those lines of communication they would still form integral parts of the whole, and would be conveniently arranged. There is a paragraph in Dr. Farr's evidence given last year, to which I may refe

refer to show my view as to bringing local matters together into one district, and almost under one roof, so that there should not be the extreme inconvenience which now exists in different administrations in all parts of the metropolis without reference to any order or organisation.

2208. *Chairman.*] The passage to which I refer is contained in Dr. Farr's answer to Question 2439, on the 26th April last year; do you concur in the answer which was given by Dr. Farr?—I concur in answer to Question No. 2439 entirely; and I believe convenient administration can only be obtained by dividing the metropolis into convenient districts for all those purposes which he enumerates; and bringing that administration, as it is in the provinces, under one roof, and under one admimistration. I believe it would be economical and convenient to everybody.

2209. Mr. *Mill.*] Do you think it important that the divisions of the metropolis should be the same for all kinds of public business?—As far as possible. I think that if any alteration is made, an attempt should be made to introduce something like uniformity of administration, and uniformity of boundary.

2210. What are your opinions as to the manner in which those municipal bodies should be constituted and elected?—I think, generally, that the principle which exists in the provinces, and in the City of London, and which has been tested for very many centuries, should be applied to London. I know no reason why it should not. If it is an inadmissible plan, and if the principle is unsound, it ought not to continue in the provinces; if it is good for the provinces, it should be introduced into London. If the vestry system is better than the municipal system, then Manchester and Birmingham should have a central board appointed by the vestries, and the municipal system should be superseded. But I apprehend, no doubt, that at present Parliament is satisfied with municipal administration, as it exists in the large towns; and I conceive that there can be no valid reason offered why it should not be introduced into the metropolis.

2211. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] You would apply the Municipal Corporation Act of 1855, I suppose, to London?—Very much so. I would not in every respect apply it; but to a very great extent. I think that Act should be applied to London, and that London should be divided into convenient districts for such purposes.

2212. Do you concur with some of the opinions which have been expressed to the Committee, that a class of persons superior to those who now serve upon the vestries would serve upon those municipal corporations?—That is my opinion. A good deal would depend upon the details, and upon the power given to the parties. Gentlemen of an influential position in the district will not come together to administer some trifling parish trusts, and to meet the parties whom they usually meet with at those boards; but if sufficient responsibility is placed upon the Corporation, and if they are not lowered in dignity below the position which a provincial mayor, or alderman, or councillor enjoys, I think that gentlemen would come forward to execute those offices, who would be of a decidedly superior class to those who attend at the vestries. With regard to the political aspects of the case, I believe it has been thought by some, that politically it would be inexpedient to give this power to the metropolis. I do not think that there is anything in that objection. I think that the inhabitants of the metropolis are entitled to claim, and are entitled to exercise, all the power which the inhabitants of other large towns in the kingdom exercise.

2213. Mr. *Tite.*] Are those 10 municipalities to have members; I think I understood you to say that they should have two members a-piece?—No; I said that I thought that it would be very desirable that for municipal and Parliamentary purposes the boundaries should be conterminous, so that the Members of Parliament, whoever they may be, should represent also the municipalities, so that there should be perfect accord between them. I should not presume to enter upon the question as to the number; that is a question for Parliament. At the present moment all the outlying districts of the metropolis have two Members, and if I alluded to two, it was only alluding to things as they stand now. I think honourable gentlemen must see that it is extremely inconvenient (and our attention was drawn to it very forcibly last year, and even at the present time) that large gatherings of certain classes of people should take place in our parks and other public places, to exercise a right which they undoubtedly ought to exercise somewhere; and it is impossible that you can deny them that right of meeting together and speaking their sentiments in a free country; but if the metropolis were incorporated like the City, or like Manchester, and if they had their hall where they could meet in considerable numbers if convened by responsible officers, and brought together under the sanction of the authorities and surrounded by the police, no possible danger could arise from such meetings; and those very inconvenient, and to some extent exceptional meetings which take place in open places would be dispensed with, because people would not require to hold them. In the City of London last year, when the question of reform began to excite popular attention, the working classes of the City of London met in Guildhall, presided over by the Lord Mayor; there was no fear or apprehension about their meeting, and there was no rioting or disturbance of any kind; they expressed their opinions and separated peaceably. There has been no further attempt at a meeting. They have expressed their opinions, and there was an end to the matter. I believe, looking at the matter politically, that it would be very advantageous to the peace and good government of the metropolis, if municipal institutions were extended to all the districts, so that men might meet and express their opinions in an organised, legal, and constitutional way.

2214. Mr. *Locke.*] With regard to their meeting to give their opinions, that would be, I suppose, under the sanction of the mayor. In the City of London it is not anybody who likes who can go to the Guildhall to hold a meeting?—No. I stated that it would be conducted under the authority of the municipality. The usual, and in fact the invariable course is, for the parties to sign a requisition to the mayor; he gives the use of the hall; he usually presides at the hall, and does all that is necessary for preserving good order at such a meeting.

2215. It rests entirely with him whether it shall be granted or not?—That is a responsibility with the mayor; but I believe there are no instances in which a mayor duly elected by the people would refuse to convene a meeting for

B. Scott, Esq.

11 April 1867.

any proper purpose. I never heard of any such case. At any rate, a meeting of that kind is much more desirable than a meeting which is unauthorised, and for which no one is responsible. With respect to the police it has been thought that the division of the metropolis into municipalities would interfere with the unity of action with the police. I believe that a complete unity of action would take place under such circumstances which does not take place at the present time. At the present time you have a municipality who have had their watch and ward and the management of their police from the earliest times, and who claim to have it still.

2216. *Chairman.*] Is that correct?—I believe so.

2217. When was the police established?—I stated that they had their watch and ward and their police from the earliest times. The police was introduced about 30 years ago, but the authorities within the City have protected themselves from the earliest times.

2218. You have put three things together; one of which you said occurred 30 years ago, and you said in your first answer that it had existed from the earliest times. You mean, probably, that they had watch and ward originally, and that for the last 30 years they have had the police?—The watch and ward was a local police in the wards of the City. In the reign of George II, the Corporation established a day police to act for the whole City, and in the year 1828 a Select Committee of this House reported that that system was a very excellent system, and that it should be imitated in the whole of the metropolis. Now, Sir Robert Peel introduced the first Police Act for the metropolis, which was an imitation of the combined watch and ward of the City; that is to say, the police of the City was brought under the head officer, and the men were clothed uniformly.

2219. When was that done?—I can give the Act of Parliament if it is desirable. The 10th of George II. was the Act under which they established the City nightly watch, and established watchmen for the whole City before the alderman, and his assistants, and his constables in each ward made a separate force.

2220. The Corporation before that had no police; but each ward with its alderman had a police?—The Corporation had 30 separate police systems, one for each ward. There were 90 parishes in the City or thereabouts.

2221. Had the corporate body as a whole any control over them?—Not at that period.

2222. Then it would not be more correct to say that the alderman of each ward had a police force to manage the ward?—He had, and he was responsible for the peace of the ward. Then subsequently to that they appointed 100 men to be a day watch; they were under one superintendent and they were uniformly clothed. In 1839 they applied to Parliament for powers to unite the night watch and the day watch in one commissioner, and so it has been improved; but I must repeat what I have stated; that from the earliest time the City has within its own limits protected itself and its inhabitants, and it does so still; it is so in all municipal towns in the kingdom, but outside the City there is another system prevailing; and under an enfranchisement of the whole metropolis, I conceive that a unity of action might take place which does not take place at the present moment. I believe that one Commissioner might be appointed (without trenching upon the rights or the interests of the inhabitants of the City) by the Crown or by some central body representing the whole metropolis, subject to the sanction of the Crown; and that if there was a proper popular control over the acts of the police as there is in the City the benefits of the police system might be extended to the whole of the metropolis, and that the police force of the metropolis might be very greatly improved. At the present moment outside the City the police commissioner is absolute. There is legally no appeal from him if any matter of abuse arises. In all municipal towns there is a watch committee, and there is a body representing the people before whom any matter which is considered an abuse of power can be brought and the matter righted. I do not hesitate to say that I, myself, and other inhabitants of the metropolis, have felt very grievously the despotism of the present system. It could not exist if municipal institutions existed combined with such a force. If municipalities were created, I think it would be very easy to make each of them a division of police; and that instead of division A, division B and division C as there are now, the divisions might be 11 in number, and then the divisions of police would be conterminous with the municipal Parliamentary division and there would be unity of administration.

2223. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Then, would you pay the whole of the cost of your police out of the localities in such a case?—I was not proposing to put the whole under local jurisdiction. I still thought that the Crown would claim, and perhaps rightly claim, in so large a district as London, that there should be some control exercised by the Crown either in the appointment of the police commissioner or in a veto upon his appointment; and I think that the appointment might remain as it is, or it might not; that is a matter of detail.

2224. *Chairman.*] What is the principle upon which you would make the forces act together?—There should be one force under one head, and there should be a sub-divisional assistant inspector.

2225. How would you appoint the head?—I have been suggesting that there should be some co-operation between the Crown and the central representative body as to the appointment of a proper person.

2226 I understand you that the Crown and the central municipality would appoint the chief of the police of the whole metropolis?—They would concur. I am not entering very minutely into details. When the City police was appointed, the Act required that the City should appoint the commissioner, but that the Crown should have a veto, so that no improper party should be appointed; and the police commissioner cannot be removed without appeal to the Crown. Therefore, to a great extent, he is a Crown officer; but any complaint may be brought before a committee, by which the clothing, number, and the cost of the police and other matters are regulated. I think that that is reasonable; it is so in 208 provincial corporations, and I can see no reason why the inhabitants of London should be at a disadvantage, and should not have the same kind of check over any abuse of power which they have in Manchester and other corporate towns.

2227. Have they any check in any corporate towns?—They appoint their commissioners all through the country.

2228. Is that so?—They do.

2229. Or do the magistrates of the towns appoint the commissioners?—I am not sure whether it is with the magistrates or whether it is with the whole council; but the magistracy in the towns are a part of the council.

2230. Are you aware whether the magistrates or the council manage the police in the towns?—I know that the rule is now that they have a watch committee appointed by the council, and that aldermen, magistrates, and councillors sit upon those watch committees. I am not contending minutely about the detail, but I think that the Crown should have some control over the police; that it should be one force; and that the people should have some committee to watch and control that which might be a grievous abuse if it were left entirely in the hands of one irresponsible person.

2231. Have the Common Council of the City any control over the police, or do the aldermen of London control the police?—The aldermen of London have some control, and the police committee of the Common Council some control. The Act of Parliament defines what the aldermen shall allow, and what the duties of the police committee shall be.

2232. Mr. *Knatchbull-Hugessen.*] Have you found no inconvenience from the authority of the Court of Aldermen over the Commissioner of Police in the City?—I never heard of an inconvenience, except that the late Commissioner and the present Commissioner have expressed opinions that they would rather be without any control, which is very natural. Little differences of opinion occur now and then; there has been one lately about the ornaments on the collar of the coat, as to whether the City arms should be on it, and there have been debates as to the helmets, for instance.

2233. Have you read the evidence of your Commissioner of Police given before a Committee of the House of Commons last year on the City Traffic Bill?—I saw that evidence. The Commissioner virtually thought that he should have more uncontrolled power than he possessed. That is a very natural opinion for him to entertain, but I do not concur with him in it. Personally, I should like that there should be no control over myself, but, officially, I think it is better that there should be a control.

2234. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] In your experience have you seen officers or Boards endeavour to get more power than they possess?—Yes, and individuals too. I believe I am justified in saying (I had it from the City Police Commissioner's lips) that there is no more efficient police in England than the City police, and therefore the system works well, and I believe the inhabitants will testify that. I have never heard any complaints yet from any section of the inhabitants in the City with respect to the City police. With regard to the proposed municipalities, I think that unquestionably there should be a court of quarter sessions for each municipality, and I think that there should be an Assistant Commissioner, that is to say, a Commissioner of Police, an assistant, not a mere inspector or a person who has risen from the police ranks, but a man who is in the position of an officer in the army, or, at any rate, a man of gentlemanly conduct and education, who could entertain a complaint in a very different way from that in which it is very often entertained now by the petty divisional officers of police. It would relieve the Head Commissioner from an enormous weight of responsibility which now rests upon him if he had efficient officers under him in the different districts.

2235. Mr. *Mill.*] You say that you would have a court of quarter sessions in each municipality; would you have the administration of justice conducted by stipendiary magistrates, or by the ordinary magistrates of the municipality?—I prefer, personally, the elective system, and, I think, that it works well; but the stipendiary system is working well in the provinces, and I think that is a matter of detail and not a matter of principle.

2236. Mr. *Sandford.*] Do you propose that those municipalities should have the coal duties which are paid in their area?—I think that the area for the collection of the coal duties, and the area for the municipalities, should be conterminous.

2237. And you would say the same, I suppose, of the metage dues?—The duties are collected in the port of London and at the coal market; and the expenditure of the duties, and the benefits to be derived from them, should be distributed as nearly as could be fairly throughout those municipalities.

2238. Then, would you permit them to have all the local or City dues which are now claimed by the City?—Certainly not. The coal duties are divided between the City, who have $\frac{4}{13}$ths, and the metropolis, who have $\frac{9}{13}$ths; but the City claims now no exclusive jurisdiction over the 4 *d.*, excepting that as they have some property in it, it should be expended in their limits, where improvements are most needed.

2239. But how about the metage dues?—The metage dues are the 4 *d.* under another name. The 4 *d.* duty is the form in which Parliament now levies the metage duty.

2240. Mr. *Tite.*] Is there not a metage duty on corn?—Yes.

2241. That is not the coal duty?—I understood the honourable Member to refer to coal. That is raising another question altogether. The property of metage dues is a chartered right of the Corporation. It is expended partly for the benefit of the Corporation, and partly for the benefit of the metropolis, no doubt. There would probably be some relief to the Corporation funds by this arrangement. Some of the expenses of the Central Criminal Court for instance might be borne by the districts.

2242. Mr. *Sandford.*] In addition to those local municipalities, would you have any general authority for the whole metropolis?—It would be indispensably necessary if there were a group of municipalities created, that some central power should be created, arising out of them for the purpose of action in matters which concern the whole metropolis, and which could not be advantageously divided between the localities. I have pointed out already in my evidence on the last occasion before this Committee, that the Municipal Commissioners of 1854 recommended that municipal institutions should be given to the metropolis; and that out of those municipal institutions should grow a central board, for the purpose of administering those things which apply to the whole metropolis.

2243. *Chairman.*] How would you create your central board out of the district?—I am not prepared to pledge myself, and I am not at all

B. Scott, Esq.

11 April 1867.

prepared to pledge the Corporation on the subject; but there are two modes by which it might be done, and I have hardly made up my mind which would be the better, either by having a central corporation, which should be a federated corporation, and which should receive into itself accessions from the corporations around, and so make a powerful central body, which should carry on any central matters of that kind, which belong to the whole metropolis; or it might be done by a separate body delegated by the whole of the municipalities in some such way as the Metropolitan Board of Works now represent the vestries and the City of London.

2244. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you represent your own opinion here, or the opinion of the Corporation?—My own opinion, and I stated so when I came here; I believe from discussions which I have heard lately in the Corporation, arising out of a book which it is well known that I have published, and from discussions which have taken place recently in the Court of Common Council, that there is a very general acquiescence in those views; but I am not prepared to pledge the Corporation at all; I rather came at the suggestion of the honourable Member for Westminster, whom I met last night in the House, that I should give my opinion upon the subject of the government of the metropolis.

2245. *Chairman.*] What is that book of which you have spoken?—It is a book which is addresed to the public, rather than one which I should produce as evidence before the Committee; it is called a "Statistical Vindication of the City of London."

2246. Mr. *Tite.*] Are the Corporation willing to give up their very considerable power over the police; are they willing to merge that power which they have been contending for?—I have not suggested that they should give up any power over the police; I have contended that the other districts of the metropolis should have that control over the police which the City now possesses.

2247. Then do you mean to have one or two?—One.

2248. Then the City would give up theirs?—They would give up nothing in principle, if they had a fair share in appointing a police commissioner to be approved by the Crown; they would be merely extending the benefits without losing anything themselves; they would have their watch committee still, and no evil could arise the City without coming under the notice of their authorities, and being remedied.

2249. *Chairman.*] Have you considered what the functions of the central corporation would be?—They have been suggested very much by what has taken place of late years, no doubt; main drainage would be one. If a main sewer is to be driven through the metropolis, there is no question that the central board must look to its construction, and keep it in repair, and perform all duties connected with it generally, and all that relates to the main sewage and main thoroughfares of London, would have to be regarded by them; I think as much supervision as possible should be given to the localities, because the more you give to the municipalities the more you will exercise the corporations in self-government, and a better class of persons will be attracted to the administration than if they were merely pettifogging boards to meet, with no important matters before them. I think, generally, that the numbers which were placed by Mr. Beal before the Committee as the number of members for the corporations have been, perhaps, a little overstated. The number of members of corporations range, I think, from 70 to 100 in Mr. Beal's plan. I think that, perhaps for the convenience of working, they may be more numerous than is necessary; I think that small boards are very much to be deprecated; but, perhaps, to create something like 564 councillors and 188 aldermen, making 752 in all, would be rather more than necessary. The proposed numbers of councillors and aldermen range from 64 up to 96, which would be the highest, and, I think, perhaps that it would be as well if they were all reduced by one-fifth or one-fourth. There are 10 municipalities suggested, and I think that there might be some difficulty in obtaining persons of a desirable class for such numerous bodies as those; so that perhaps if one-fifth or one-fourth of the number were taken off, it would be advantageous.

2250. Mr. *Tite.*] Would you have the elections annually, or triennially as they are now in the corporations in the country?—I am bound to say that annual elections work very well in the City.

2251. You prefer annual election?—I prefer annual election

2252. And you think that it would bring a better class of gentlemen to sit upon those boards as common councilmen and aldermen?—In the City the aldermen are not elected annually; they are elected for life, but it is a question of detail.

2253. I think that it is a question of principle in a great degree?—I think that the question of principle is, that there should be a direct representation of the people; but it is a question of detail whether they should go out in one year, two years, or three years.

2254. Is that your opinion?—I prefer annual election, myself; no doubt for magisterial purposes it would be inconvenient and undesirable to have an annual election; but for the purposes of governing a municipal board I think that it would be convenient and would work well. I do not think that it is desirable that men occupying judicial positions should be too often sent to their constituents; but men who are sent merely to raise moneys, and to expend them, I think should be frequently elected.

2255. You do not think that the alderman of a municipality should have this magisterial power?—I think that it might be very well left as a matter of detail whether there should be stipendiary magistrates or not; I think a small, or a certain proportion of them should be justices of the peace. I believe that a certain proportion of the aldermen are justices in the provinces, and a stipendiary magistrate is appointed in most of the large towns. In the smaller towns the aldermen administer justice themselves.

2256. If the aldermen do administer justice you would not have them elected so frequently?—Just so. I should wish to mention one matter in reference to what I understand fell from an honourable Member the other day in conversation. I will illustrate what I mean by taking the case of Manchester. If the town of Manchester were represented as the City of London is now represented on the Board of Works, instead of having a town council, it would have only three members and a-half, taking the population, and Salford would have only one member. Taking the rateable value, Manchester would have

have four members and Salford would have one member. As it is and at present Manchester has one mayor, 16 aldermen, and 48 councillors, making 65. Salford has one mayor, 15 aldermen, and 48 councillors, making 64. We contend that a more numerous representation is desirable than is obtained at that Board, and if the same rule were applied to London as is applied to provincial towns, there would be a very different system from that which exists now at that Board.

B. Scott, Esq.
11 April 1867.

Mr. JOHN JONES, called in; and Examined.

2257. *Chairman.*] WHAT are you?—I am a Watchmaker by trade, and a resident at 338, Strand, in the City of Westminster.

2258. Are you connected with the local government of the metropolis?—In no way at all, except that I hear that you are going to arrange some new system of governing me.

2259. Have you any experience in the local government of the metropolis?—Do you mean as regards a vestryman; that is a form of government.

2260. As regards the administration of the local affairs of the metropolis?—What do you mean by local affairs; do you mean the poor? I am a vestryman.

2261. Do you take part in the administration of the affairs of the metropolis as a vestryman of the Strand district?—I attend at the vestry and give a vote there.

2262. Does the vestry administer any local affairs for the parish in which you live?—It elects officers.

2263. Does it do anything else?—It fixes rates.

2264. How do you mean that it fixes rates?—It makes rates.

2265. Does it fix the amount of any rates?—Just so; that is how it does it.

2266. Does it do anything else?—It elects officers and makes rates. I do not remember at this moment that it does anything else.

2267. Mr. *Mill.*] Your district is included in the Strand Union, I presume?—Yes.

2268. So that it does not exercise the ordinary power of a vestry?—We elect officers to the district board.

2269. *Chairman.*] You have only then taken part in attending, as vestryman, meetings to elect officers and make rates?—Just so; and I want to complain that the Metropolitan Board of Works has lately been applying quite unexpectedly to me for power to raise a fourpenny rate upon my property, which suddenly called up my attention. Now I got up a petition in my parish objecting to it, feeling that such a question as that ought to have been referred back to the people who sent them there, and that it was taking a liberty with a power which we had given to them, that they should proceed without asking Parliament to give them the power of taxing us; and so my attention has been directed to this matter which hitherto I had not much attended to. I wish also to point out that there is in the vestry system, as at present existing, a great feebleness. In the parish in which I live the Government have an office at Somerset House. We used to have that taxed to the rates of our parish, but suddenly the Government chose to withhold any rates whatever, claiming the exemption which the Government offices have. Somerset House occupies nearly half of our parish, and therefore our rates were suddenly very largely increased. We applied to the Government asking them to assist us, and the members for the district went with us as a deputation to Sir Cornewall Lewis; there was a long interval before any remedy was given; our rates meanwhile were very oppressive, and at last the Government gave us, as a benevolence (they would not allow it as an obligation), 500 *l.*, which is very much less than their fair proportion. The result is, that an extra proportion of the several rates imposed upon us are thrown upon the housekeepers in my neighbourhood, because the Government, in their economical ideas, chose to exempt themselves from their natural burdens, so that that has been in my parish a very severe penance; and I think that if we had had an organisation, so that we could have gone as a whole body to the Government, we could have asked them with more authority, and should have had more attention.

Mr. *John Jones.*

2270. Mr. *Mill.*] What do you propose with a view to give you this greater authority?—I think that if we had had an organised authority for the district, such as the City of London have, we should have had a power at once to be attended to, but the several parishes just going up very feebly, each of them by itself, are very little noticed.

2271. Do you think that a municipality would be more listened to by the Government and by Parliament?—I do think that a municipality, as being a larger power, would be more listened to by the Government and by Parliament than a parish, and naturally enough.

2272. Have you any other suggestion to make to the Committee?—Then I think that it is also very unreasonable that a resident in London, and a man holding a moderate position in the world, and who is able to understand things, should be dictated to, and be told to pay so much towards a county rate in which he has no voice whatever; I, as one of the parish, have to do with the making of the poor rate, but in the case of the county rate, without any communication, we are bidden by some central authority over which we have no control, to add so many pounds to our rate book, to provide for a county rate. Now I think that that is a position in which citizens of this metropolis ought not to be; we ought to be under no such subservience as that any power should be able to tell us how much to give without our having any voice in the matter.

2273. Do you think that the whole metropolis should be itself a county, and should vote its own county rate?—I claim the power of appointing those men who have the power of dictating county rates to me. I claim the power also of having a voice in the management of those men who claim a police rate from me; and, I think it a reasonable claim, that every citizen ought to have the power of asking by what right they put those burdens upon us, and that they should also account to us as to whether those things are wisely expended which we have contributed as part of the rates. That is what I should like to know in the first instance. I sent up some months ago to know at the police office how many men were supplied to my parish. We pay in my

Mr. *John Jones.*

11 April 1867.

parish, which is a very small one, some 280 *l.* a year; and I wanted to know how many men it furnished for our district; but the police had no orders to give any answer; I consider that that was rather an inferior kind of answer to what I ought to receive, and therefore, I consider that all tradespeople who are resident in Westminster ought to be able to ask with authority how the money taken from us is disposed of, and so hearing that this matter was before you, I came.

2274. *Chairman.*] Have you any other suggestion to offer?—I think that we ought to have municipalities, because I think they would be excellent methods for finding out the proper men to represent us in Parliament.

2275. Mr. *Mill.*] I understand you to say that you think properly constituted local bodies are a useful training school for Members of Parliament?—That is right; and that men would be understood for what they are worth if they passed before us in different gradations of duty.

2276. This is, in your opinion, one of the particular advantages of properly constituted local government, which you consider that the vestry government is not?—Just so. I think it is very feeble.

2277. Is it your opinion that the vestry does not bring forward persons and make them known to the public, who would be useful to the public in capacities of a more elevated kind; but that municipal government does do so?—Entirely. I think it is all part of a general system.

2278. *Chairman.*] Have you any other suggestion to offer relating to the administration of the local government of the metropolis?—I think that those municipalities should be, as the Chamberlain has said, conterminous with the metropolitan boroughs. Then I should also like to preserve the City of London, because the City of London has a distinct character from any other municipality. The City of London is built up of old-fashioned guilds, and I am a member of the City of London, although not living in it. I consider that that is a very useful system of connection, and I should be sorry to see the City of London deprived of that relationship which it possesses to all parts of the metropolis through the means of the livery companies. So that if municipalities are established, I would preserve the City of London on its present footing, and I would still keep the livery companies as the electors of the Lord Mayor, because the Lord Mayor has a particular political authority, which I consider to be very beneficial for middle-class people; and I think that if you abolish the Lord Mayor of London, you very much abolish the authority of the trading classes, as opposed to what may be called the aristocratic classes. I think that the City of London, by its ancient institutions and its guilds, and its Lord Mayor, and by the best men being spread over the whole metropolis, does give an authority and a position to men in trading communities, which otherwise they would lose; and that the chasm would be very large between the aristocracy and the trading classes, if there were not such a body as the City of London; and I further think also that municipal institutions in any time of any social disturbance would be excellent authorities for Government to appeal to. It seemed to me quite ludicrous some years ago for the Government to send down a message to the churchwardens of my parish to ask them to call out special constables to keep the peace at Westminster. What had the churchwardens to do, I thought at the time, with providing men with staves. And is it not a foolish thing for a Government to have to ask a churchwarden to keep the peace in the neighbourhood If there had been a properly constituted municipal authority, the whole thing would have been done with more system and with more efficiency. I have come just to state why I complain of being taxed without having any voice in the business.

2279. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] You have alluded to Somerset House; I presume that there is great traffic through your streets to Somerset House?—Just so.

2280. I presume that the offices in Somerset House are every day cleaned by parties who come to Somerset House for that purpose?—Just so.

2281. Many of those people reside in your parish?—Yes. When we went to Sir Cornewall Lewis, there was at that moment a woman in the Union who founded her right to be in that Union upon her employment in Somerset House, and yet the Government refused to pay.

2282. Of course, in an establishment employing persons paupers arise, and so paupers arise out of the persons employed at Somerset House who have no legal claims as rateable to the parish?— They have a legal claim upon the parish, and yet Somerset House is free from them.

2283. I presume that Somerset House is drained?—Yes, and it throws the burden upon my parish.

2284. Do they contribute anything to the main-drainage rates?—Only out of the 500 *l.*, which they give as a benevolence; and when we talked to the Members of Parliament about it, they did not assist us.

2285. Mr. *Locke.*] Are you aware that a Bill was brought into Parliament on that subject?—It was brought in, but it was never pushed through; I complained of the metropolitan members.

2286. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] The gaslights in front of Somerset House, I suppose, are found by the parish?—All that comes out of the 500 *l.*, which they call a benevolence.

2287. Mr. *Tite.*] Do you know that in the City of London, the Temple and the great Inns of Court do not contribute?—That is out of my district; I came rather to speak of my own liability to taxation, and my inability to help myself when I am taxed; and I complain of that as being an injustice upon the citizens.

Tuesday, 30*th April* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ayrton.	Lord John Manners.
Mr. Bentinck.	Mr. Mill.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. Sandford.
Mr. Alderman Lawrence.	Mr. Tite.
Mr. Locke.	Mr. Turner.

ACTON SMEE AYRTON, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

Sir RICHARD MAYNE, K.C.B., called in; and Examined.

Sir *R. Mayne*, K.C.B. 30 April 1867.

2288. *Chairman.*] YOU are Chief Commissioner of Police for the Metropolitan District, are you not?—I am the Commissioner of Police. There is no other Commissioner.

2289. Has your attention been called to some statements made before this Committee with reference to yourself?—It has; and I may say that it was not until, I think, the Wednesday or Thursday before the late holidays. As soon as I had seen the nature of the statements, I thought it would be right to give evidence here. I did not know in fact who Mr. Scott was; but as I saw, from the commencement of his evidence, that he appeared as the advocate and the representative of the City and of the Common Council, I thought then that it was due to them, as well as of course to myself, that I should make some observations upon statements which appeared to me to be erroneous, and upon inferences which certainly are not justified by anything which I have stated.

2290. Will you be good enough to direct the attention of the Committee to the points upon which you wish to remark?—The first point is one which would discredit the whole statement to such a degree, that, although it was mentioned late in the evidence, I will take it first. The answer to which I refer was made by Mr. Scott to Lord John Manners, at Question 840, on the 28th of March. The witness had before stated, that the statement (namely, my printed letter of 1st June 1863 to Sir George Grey, with statistical tables attached), was sent by me to the newspapers for publication. That is true; and it appeared therefore, word for word, in the newspapers of the day, and it led to a great deal of public discussion and comment. It was written in consequence of a Bill which was introduced about that time by Sir George Grey, for the amalgamation of the Metropolitan and City Police Forces; observations having been made in both Houses of Parliament with reference to what had taken place in the City upon the entrance of the Princess Alexandra. It was first published in that way in the newspapers. Mr. Scott continues thus his answer: "I stated just now that "it should not have been produced to this Com- "mittee, because it was laid before Sir George "Grey, and Sir G. Grey has kept the document "from 1863 until the time when it was laid before "this Committee last year, so that there is no "doubt whatever that the Home Secretary saw it "was a matter not fit for publication, and that it "was not prepared with that accuracy with which "such documents ought to be prepared." In answer to those assertions, I shall now show that the letter and tables were sent to the sub-chairman of the City Police Committee, at his request in August 1863, as the letters I produce will show. On the 24th of August the following letter was written to Sir George Grey: "Sir,—A letter "bearing date the 1st June 1863, with Appen- "dices, having been addressed by Sir Richard "Mayne to yourself, has been printed and pri- "vately circulated. Not having been able by any "means to obtain a copy of it, I shall esteem it a "favour if you will direct that one should be "sent to me." I may say, in passing, that no application was made to me, or, of course, I should have sent a copy. That letter is signed by Mr. Thomas Lott, sub-chairman, I believe, of the Police Committee of the City of London at that time. That letter was transmitted to me by Sir George Grey, enclosed in a letter signed by Mr. Waddington: "Sir,—I am directed by Secretary "Sir George Grey to transmit to you the enclosed "letter from the sub-chairman of the City Police "Committee, asking for a copy of your letter to "Sir George Grey, on the subject of the respective "cost of the City and Metropolitan Police "Forces." On the 3rd of September, a copy was sent to Sir George Grey with a letter from me, and it was transmitted to Mr. Lott with this letter: "Sir,—I am directed by Secretary Sir "George Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your "letter of the 24th ultimo, and in compliance with "your request, to forward to you a printed copy "of the letter addressed to him by Sir Richard "Mayne on the 1st June last." It appears to me that these letters plainly disprove the notion of my letters, &c., being kept in the Home Office; that letter was not kept in Sir George Grey's office; and that there was no foundation whatsoever for the assertion, that Sir George Grey saw that it was not prepared with that accuracy which made it fit for publication.

2291. Is there any other point on which you wish to make any remark?—With reference to the accuracy of the statements in the letter, or rather in the Appendices to the letter, I wish to state that, not trusting to my own eye, or my own opinion

Sir *R. Mayne*, K.C.B.

30 April 1867.

opinion upon the matter, I transmitted the whole, with the documents from which they were prepared, to the gentleman who, I believed, was the highest authority (I believe at least as high as any authority upon such a matter) Mr. Purdy, the statistical clerk of the Poor Law Board and secretary to the Statistical Society of London. I may say that I have no acquaintance with that gentleman; I sent those documents with a letter requesting him to be so good as carefully to examine them, and to send me back any corrections, if he found reason for any, or, if not, any observations which he thought proper to make upon them. His observations are in the Appendix, and I will only refer to two or three of them as the whole is among your papers. His letter is signed, "Frederick Purdy, Secretary to the Statistical Society, and Statistical Clerk to the Poor Law Board." He says, "the City Police has charge over 725 acres; the Metropolitan Police over 439,744 acres. The proportionate areas, taking that of the City Police as unity, are for the City Police 1, for the Metropolitan Police 606. The City Police has to protect" (and this I submit is of importance with reference to the statements of the witness, Mr. Scott [page 47 of printed Evidence]) "112,063 persons; the Metropolitan Police has to protect 3,110,654." Then he states the difference of population, urban, suburban and rural; the numbers being 2,691,926 in the urban and suburban districts, and 418,728 in the rural. The proportionate population is, under the City Police, 1; under the Metropolitan Police, 28. He states that the City Police has to watch 14,794 houses, and that the Metropolitan Police has to watch 461,845 houses. The proportionate number of houses under the City Police is 1; the Metropolitan Police, 31. Then he gives the amount of the forces; 608 men in the City Police, and 6,116 men in the Metropolitan Police. I would observe, in passing, that that number is stated to be incorrect, but I took it from the best source which was then open to me. I sent to the clerk of the City Police Committee, and he sent me that as being the number at that time belonging to the City Police. Whether they were or were not up to their full strength at the time, I do not know, but that is my reason for taking that number. It is somewhat different from that which is stated in the "Judicial Statistics," but I took it from the return of the clerk. Then Mr. Purdy gives "the ratio of force to area as being in the City Police one man to 1·2 acres, and in the Metropolitan Police, one man to 72 acres." Then, as regards the ratio of force to population, as that is very much found fault with by Mr. Scott, I quote Mr. Purdy's authority: "The ratio of force to population is, in the City Police, one man to 184 persons, and in the Metropolitan Police, one man to 508 persons." Then he states the cost. I hope the Committee will allow me hereafter to show that the statement which I made as to the cost, for the purposes of comparison with the City Police, is perfectly accurate in every item. Then, as to the crimes, efficient apprehensions, and discharges by the magistrates, I will not trouble the Committee with those details, because they are before them in the Appendix if they wish to refer to them, but I will quote the last paragraphs, if the Committee will allow me [Appendix by Mr. Purdy, p. 11.]: "If the whole value of a police were "to be measured by the number of magisterial "commitals in comparison with police apprehen- "sions, it would appear plain from these figures "that the waste of force by the City Police is "double that which is experienced by the Metro- "politan body. The Metropolitan Police are con- "cerned with a much graver class of crimes, or "they get up their evidence more completely; of "suspected and accused persons apprehended by "the City Police, less than one-half are committed "for trial; of those apprehended by the Metro- "politan Police, fully three-fourths are committed "for trial. The precise number of criminals who "were committed for trial in the year was, in the "City Police district 321, and in the Metropolitan "district 2,997. Computing the rates of these "figures to the respective population of each dis- "trict, it is found that the graver crimes in the "City Police district are as three, and in the "Metropolitan Police district as one." I have pointed out those more prominent paragraphs by Mr. Purdy, because they are very much challenged, and, in fact, are asserted roundly to be utterly incorrect, and, indeed, in some respects, ridiculous; the supposition or assumptions in Mr. Scott's evidence being founded upon statements which certainly I never made; but having called attention to those details, if the Committee will allow me, I will refer next to the comparison of the expense of the two forces, which I think is very important. I will say, in passing, that this letter, which has been the subject of comment, was founded upon an official letter which I wrote to Sir George Grey when the Bill I have alluded to for amalgamating the City Police with the Metropolitan Force was about to be introduced into Parliament by Sir George Grey. I pointed out those points to Mr. Bruce, who was then Under Secretary.

2292. Was that letter laid before Parliament at the time?—No, it was an official letter from me; the Bill dropped, and Sir George Grey (I should think very wisely) thought it was unnecessary to publish statements for no purpose. I refer to it, to show that this letter which was published after the Bill dropped, was founded upon statements made by me for Sir George Grey's information with reference to the debates which were likely at that time to occur with regard to the two forces, and it was with no afterthought as to publishing statements which there was no opportunity likely to be afforded for discussing, that I wrote that letter at the time. I make this observation with reference to an allegation that I made an unfair attack upon the City Police, and that the City Police had never made any attack upon the Metropolitan Police. [Evidence of Mr. Scott, Answers 856 and 857.] The date of this letter which I wrote to Sir George Grey, was the 1st of April 1863. The Bill was introduced on the 18th of that month, and the letter was intended to supply Sir George Grey with information upon many points which I thought were likely to arise in debate. My object, as I said before, is to show that the published letter which contains the same statements a little varied, was not any afterthought, nor was it published with a view to disparage the City Police, or any other person; but to give Sir George Grey data which, at that time, I thought would be of importance for the purpose of the debate in Parliament. This paragraph explains my object: "I should not have entered into any discussion as to the merits of the two bodies of police, but in answer to statements referred to

at

at the commencement of this letter. I do not desire to disparage the administration nor the conduct of the City Police." Those statements to which I allude were made very roundly, certainly, in the newspapers, and also, I think, in Parliament. "I do not desire to disparage the "administration nor the conduct of the City Po- "lice; that force is organised exactly upon the "model of the Metropolitan Police, the orders "and regulations for the performance of their "duties are taken from those of the Metropolitan "Police, the regulations still in force were ap- "proved as the law requires by the Secretary of "State, the late Sir James Graham, in the year "1842; but the operations of the City Police "must necessarily be less effective in consequence "of the very limited area in which they act, and "the want of knowledge of the persons and prac- "tices of the criminal classes who go from the "surrounding district into the City to commit "crime." I mentioned that, at that time, to Sir George Grey, to show him that my object was not to make an attack upon the City Police, but merely to show what I believed to be the facts.

With regard to the cost. Mr. Scott states, in answer to Question No. 825, "The statement is first of all incorrect." (That is only an assertion.) "It is incorrect in putting the cost of the Metropolitan Police at 400,389 *l.* It is 72,588 *l.* more than that, according to the Returns made to Parliament that year, and according to the Returns which are published by the Home Secretary in the Judicial Statistics." Now, first of all, I will state that Mr. Purdy, before whom those documents were laid, says [Appendix to my Letter, page 10], "The cost of the two forces having effected, in respect of the two items, parity of charge by striking off from the latter" (that is from the metropolitan account) "several sums for special objects not carried to the police account in the City statements," he proceeds to state the yearly cost of the forces, the same as I have done. Now the reason for my deductions, which I think the Committee will see are fully borne out is, that not one of those items which I have deducted is stated in the City Police Account. The City Police Account I got from the Parliamentary Office; it is the Parliamentary Account for the year 1861, delivered to the House of Commons in June 1862. In page 6 of the Account, signed "Benjamin Scott, Chamberlain," for the year ending the 31st of December 1861, the following are the items on which my comparison of the cost of the Metropolitan Police is made. First of all, salaries of commissioner, superintendent, surgeon, and other officers, 3,155 *l.*; salaries of inspectors and constables amount to 37,215 *l.* 15 *s.* 9 *d.* Transfer to Superannuation Fund of deductions from pay of men, fines, and stoppages, when the transfers to the Police Superannuation Fund are only those sums which are raised by deductions, stoppages for misconduct, and so on, and they amount to 1,142 *l.* 1 *s.* 6 *d.* Clothing and accoutrements cost 2,686 *l.* 2 *s.*; lanterns 387 *l.* 10 *s.*, and so on. I will say shortly that those items, together with the expenses of printing and stationery, amounted to the sum of 48,172 *l.* 2 *s.* Every one of those items for the Metropolitan Police is included in the account upon which my comparison is made. I have omitted others in the City Account because we have no such items in the Metropolitan Account. The expense of making rates, I have nothing to do with. Pensions to superannuated watchmen are not in our account, and not included in the general comparison. Law charges, Parliamentary expenses, expenses of erection of telegraph, are omitted from the City Accounts, because there are none such in the Metropolitan Account. Now the items which I claim to deduct, and which I have deducted, are the following: Medical attendance and medicines for destitute prisoners (there is no item of that sort in the City Police Account), that is 1,099 *l.* 17 *s.* Horses, forage, saddlery, and vans, 8,491 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.*; there is no item of that sort in the City Police Account. Erection and purchase of premises, 15,179 *l.* 2 *s.* 2 *d.*; there is no item of that sort in the City Police Account. Refreshments for destitute prisoners, 1,323 *l.* 19 *s.* 10 *d.*; there is no item of that sort in the City Police Account. Extraordinary expenses incurred in the pursuit, apprehension, and conveyance of prisoners, 3,415 *l.* 5 *s.*; there is no item of that sort in the City Police Account. Expenses and allowances on special occasions, and on duties out of the district, 805 *l.* 19 *s.* 9 *d.*; there is no item of that sort in the City Police Account. Retired allowances to Bow-street patrol, &c. Retired allowances to officers of departments, and so on, (there being none similar in the City Account), those are omitted. Then the final one is deficiency of Police Superannuation Fund, 42,242 *l.* 2 *s.* 10 *d.* Now, I will observe specially upon the two items. A sum for the erection and purchase of premises of 15,179 *l.* 2 *s.* 2 *d.*, and 42,242 *l.* 2 *s.* 10 *d.* for the deficiency of the Police Superannuation Fund; that sum is transferred from the general account of the police to the superannuation fund, the superannuation fund not being adequate. There is no such item in the City Police Account, and therefore I have deducted that. Also for the erection and purchase of premises, 15,179 *l.* 2 *s.* 2 *d.* Mr. Scott states [page 46 of printed Evidence] that the City police is liable for every one of those items. They may be so, but they are not in the City Police Accounts. That is sufficient reason for my omitting or deducting them from the Metropolitan Police Account, for the purpose of making the comparison of cost per man. But I find further that in fact in that year, 1861 (for I have now lately made inquiry), not one shilling or pound was paid for the erection of police premises, while upwards of 15,000 *l.* was paid in the metropolis; and not one penny was transferred from the General Police Fund of the City to the superannuation fund, whilst in the metropolis there was a sum of 42,000 *l.* contributed to the superannuation fund.

2293. Why is there that heavy contribution? —Because the superannuation charge is so heavy. The transfer is made by Act of Parliament. The Police Superannuation Fund, after a few years, was found to be insufficient to meet the charges upon it. The pensions awarded by Act of Parliament were high, and the contributions were low, the fines and stoppages were less than were calculated; the deficiency was such that a Bill was brought in by Sir George Grey to authorise the transfer from the general funds of the police to the superannuation fund. That is stated in the Annual Account laid before Parliament. If the Committee wish, I will refer to it in the Parliamentary Account of the year 1862, but it is for the expenses of 1861. That contains the whole account in debtor and creditor form of the superannuation fund for that year. Those sums I have deducted, because there is not one of them in the City Police Account, and therefore any com-

Sir *R. Mayne*, K.C.B.

30 April 1867.

parison made with them would have been upon data that did not correspond. Then Mr. Scott refers to the "Judicial Statistics" for the year 1861, as justifying his statement; it is quite true that to a certain degree (in fact, I will admit wholly) it does so; but that statement in the "Judicial Statistics" is incorrect, and I wrote to the Secretary of State, pointing out the error, and the propriety of deducting the sums; accordingly in the "Judicial Statistics" of the following year, 1862, reference is made to the statement in the previous year; the propriety of the deductions is admitted, and a correction of that error in the previous year is made, upon which Mr. Scott relied, as showing that my comparative statements of expense were entirely unfounded [page 46 of printed Evidence.] This is the extract from the Home Office "Judicial Statistics" of the following year [page 8]: "In the Statistics of the year 1861 an estimate was given of the cost per man in each of the different police forces. This estimate was calculated upon the total number of officers of all ranks, and the total costs as shown in the annual returns of the respective forces. With regard to the metropolitan police, however, it appears that in the total charge stated in the annual return, which comprises the general expenditure of the metropolitan police establishment for the year, several items are included which cannot properly be taken into account in forming a strict estimate of the cost per man, and which, with a view to a comparison with the cost per man in other police forces, must be excluded, there being no similar charges in the statements of their accounts. The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and the Receiver have furnished two statements (given as an Appendix, after the police tables at page 43), the one showing the items of general expenditure which they consider should be excluded in estimating the cost per man, and the other the items which have a direct bearing on, and reference to, the charge proper for police purposes for the year ending 30th September 1862; calculated, accordingly, the cost per man is shown to have been 62 *l.* 7 *s.* 3 *d.* for that year, and by making similar deductions from the amount given as the total charge for the metropolitan police for the year ending 30th September 1861, the average cost per man for that year would have been 65 *l.* 9 *s.* 3 *d.*, in place of 78 *l.* 3 *s.* 2 *d.*;" thus verifying, as I have stated, the charge per man, viz., 65 *l.* 9 *s.* 3 *d.* instead of 78 *l.*, making a difference of 13 *l.* for each constable against the City police. Now, upon these two grounds, first of all my own calculation of the deductions, acknowledged to be correct by the Home Office, and next the paragraph in the "Judicial Statistics" in the following year, I am correct as to those relative statements.

2294. Is there any other point upon which you wish to make any statement to the Committee?—I do not wish to detain the Committee, but I am prepared to show the incorrectness of each of the assertions and conclusions in Mr. Scott's evidence affecting my letter to Sir George Grey, as, for instance, in the reference to an "actuarial calculation," that Mr. Scott states [page 49 of printed Evidence] he had made by which every person in the City, including infants, must have been three times during their natural lives in prison. That actuarial calculation must of course have been made according to the data which were submitted to the actuary. I do not know what those data were, but I assert most distinctly that there was no part of my letter which would justify what I cannot help calling such an absurdity. The error seems to me, as far as I can conjecture, to be this, that Mr. Scott assumes that I charged the crimes as committed by the inhabitants of the City; I did not state any such thing; crimes are committed by whoever comes there to commit them. I do not wish to make any unpleasant allusion to any other body of people, and to the police force still less ought I to do so; but the reproach to the police force of any place is the greater if people come there to commit crimes, because they feel that is a better field for them.

2295. It may be that there is more temptation, and therefore the argument does not go very far?—I do not admit that there is more temptation. I think if we look at the jewellers' and other shops, as well as private houses in the metropolis, there is as much temptation there as in the City.

2296. It is not necessary to go into that. Do you wish to give an explanation of the grounds upon which your statements have been made, to show that, in your view, the allegations against them were unfounded?—I should be glad to do so, if the Committee will allow me. Mr. Scott [page 47 of printed Evidence] refers to this statement in my letter to Sir George Grey and tables attached: "The cost of the maintenance of the police, considered as a tax per head of the whole population of each district, is, in the metropolitan district, 2 *s.* 10 *d.*, and in the City 8 *s.* 4 *d.*, or 194 per cent. higher in the City." Upon that Mr. Scott remarks [page 47 of printed Evidence]," This the Committee will see is a fallacy as measuring crimes by the population of the City. It assumes that all the crime is committed by 113,390 night residents. Nothing was more remote from my intention, and nothing that I have said justifies any such imagination; for aught I stated everybody living in the City, the whole of the 113,000 persons, may have been the most pure and innocent people in the community. I stated that the crimes were committed, and I stated that one of the modes, indeed one of the commonest modes of estimating the proportion of crime, is by showing what proportion or relation the number of crimes committed in any place bears to the population of that place. The figures stated in my letter are accurate. I never said, imagined, or asserted, or intended to assert, and nothing I have said bears that meaning, that the crimes were committed by the population of the City, as Mr. Scott asserted I did. Mr. Scott says [page 47 of printed Evidence], "It assumes that all the crime is committed by 113,390 night residents." It does not assume any such thing. Then Mr. Scott goes on to show from returns (which might have been spared) procured from the City chief clerk, relating, however, to another year, the numbers of people resident in the City, and the number of non-residents coming into the City.

2297. Without going into that question, I understand you to say, that you do not believe or assert that the crimes in the metropolis are either committed by people resident in the particular district where they are committed, or against the particular residents in that district?—Certainly not; they are committed to the detriment of the persons living where they are committed, and I say that one of the ordinary modes of judging of the efficiency of police (and it is that which I myself adopt) is to see, as compared with

with other districts, what the amount of crime is within any one in proportion to the number of persons and the number of houses. I certainly find very sharp fault with any superintendent, unless an explanation is given of it, if the crimes are greater in proportion in one district than they are in another. In illustration of this, I may refer to a particular case; I do not do it in any invidious sense; the Committee may remember the cases of what were called the City burglaries; there was the case of Mr. Walker, in Cornhill, a year or two ago.

2298. You need not go into detail upon all these points?—I should like to refer to this case; the persons who were apprehended and convicted in that case were persons residing outside the City.

2299. Mr. *Sandford.*] What you have already stated is quite sufficient; you have explained that the opinions which appear to be ascribed to you, either directly or inference, are opinions which you do not hold?—I do not hold them, and there is no justification for saying that I hold any such ridiculous absurdity. With regard to the population, and the number of houses, I took that mode of judging the amount of crime as it is, one of the commonest modes, and, as I could show from the "Judicial Statistics," it is followed for that purpose as one of the modes of judging crimes for the very year I referred to; in fact a very great variety of towns, Liverpool, Manchester, and the City, &c., were compared in that way; when I say the City, it was not the City as distinguished from the metropolitan district. The Home Office "Judicial Statistics" for 1861, page 7, states where the proportion of crime is numerically greater in proportion to the population of the places (not committed by the population, whether it may be so or not, but to the detriment of the population), that crime is more rife in such a place, and any of us would feel that to be so, I think. Suppose for every six persons or six houses, in any place, three crimes were committed, crime would be felt to be very rife in that place.

2300. *Chairman.*] You adopted a standard of comparison used in the "Judicial Statistics," without intending to assert that the resident population committed the crimes upon the resident population?—Exactly; it never entered my mind to say anything of the kind. The inhabitants of the City may be perfectly innocent, every man, woman, and child of them for aught I know. In the same way, I took the number of houses, and there seems to be something erroneous. I do not like to use words which have been used very often against myself, therefore I will not call it a fallacy, but there is a statement here which seems to me not to bear examination, and not to be correct, with regard to the value of the houses. Mr. Scott immediately asserts [page 47 of printed Evidence] that, in order to make a just comparison between the crimes and the number of houses, you must ascertain the value of the houses. But I submit that the value of the houses has nothing whatever to do with the comparison. The comparison is taken with regard to the whole number of houses; that is another way of testing crime common to all statistical tables. You say, there being so many houses, the crimes bear such and such a proportion to them; for instance, suppose there is a street in which there are six houses, and there have been three burglaries committed in that street, no matter what the value of the houses may be, I should say that the people who inhabited the rest of the six houses would become very much alarmed.

2301. You take the ratio between the number of houses and the number of crimes committed?—Yes, it is the ratio of the crimes to the houses; the value of the house has nothing to do with it. But Mr. Scott assumes [page 47 of printed Evidence] a greater value for the City houses, and represents the City people as being very splendidly lodged. He ascribes to them residences four times the value of the houses outside the City; we, outside the City, do not find our houses quite so cheap. However, that has nothing to do with the matter. I do not think it is necessary to enter into another point, namely, the review which Mr. Scott takes [Page 47 of printed evidence] of the population; it is new to me, and what foundation there may be for it I cannot say; it appears to me to be very fanciful; it would seem to me that no reliable data can be taken except the ordinary census. The population of every place is taken as the night population. A man "lives" at home where his personal effects and his family are located; it is his domicile, his abode where he sleeps and dwells in contradistinction to his office, where he spends the smaller part of his daily life. That a greater number of people go to the City than into any one other part is true, for their daily avocations in banks, mercantile houses, &c.

2302. But you would say that if they go into the City, they go through your district to get there?—Yes; what is the difference between Fleet-street and the Strand, and between one end of London Bridge and the other.

2303. You need not enlarge upon that point?—I will not detain the Committee by going into it, but certainly my comparison was made *bonâ fide* upon the best data I could get, and upon data which I still believe to be the best, and, indeed, the only data upon which the comparison can be made. I do not know whether it is necessary for me to enter into the question as to value, but I have made a comparison, taking two pairs of parishes.

2304. I do not think you need go into that question of value?—In the next assertion [page 49 of printed Evidence] Mr. Scott uses hard words, but I do not regard them. He says, "The whole of these statements about the excess of crime in the City I believe to be totally unfounded and unjustifiable;" it will be for the Committee to judge whether they are unfounded and unjustifiable or not. Then, after asserting that my statements are totally unfounded and unjustifiable, he says, "I think they are very undesirable, considered with reference to the City Commissioner of Police, who is a gentleman of very high experience connected with the police, and who was recommended to the Corporation by Sir George Grey, the late Home Secretary; I am quite sure it is only fair to him to say that there is no foundation for them." Now, a single observation puts an end to all that, for Colonel Frazer was not the City Police Commissioner at the time; he was not appointed for some years afterwards, not I think, until June 1863, and my letter, &c., refers to 1861. I am certainly the last person who would make any imputation against Colonel Frazer, who is an able man, and I may say my friend; but with regard to Mr. Whittle Harvey, his predecessor, I certainly did not

Sir *R. Mayne*, K.C.B.

30 April 1867.

not mean to make the slightest imputation against him; I believe he was a very able officer; I will only say that I believe the inferiority, as I must maintain it to be, of the City Police, is a necessary consequence of the state of a little police force being organised, for a very small part, as you see from that map before you, of an immense surrounding town, it being impossible that that police force can attain the experience which is attained by men who are transferred from one part of the Metropolis to another; nor is it possible that they can have a knowledge of the bad characters who reside all round them, and who, albeit they are "outsiders," come in and commit crime in the City. That was my meaning; I made no imputation whatever against any officer in the City, or against a single man in the City of London; it is the system, not the men, that I object to; I believe, as far as I have had opportunities of knowing, the men in the City Police Force are very good men; but I will say a word for my own force in this respect. Mr. Scott stated before (I have not got the passage under my eye at this moment, I think it was with regard to the question of comparative expense) that the police in the City of London are an inch higher than those in the Metropolitan Force; now I am far from considering that an advantage; I remember our discussions in Ireland upon that point; it may give a taller or finer regiment of guards; corps of that description may prize men the more because the standard is an inch higher, but for a police force it is of no advantage. The standard of the Metropolitan Police Force is 5 feet 7 inches; that gives an average of 5 feet 8½ inches, or 5 feet 9 inches; I should think it is 5 feet 9 inches; that is quite as tall as it is desirable to have men, so that I think the additional inch in the standard is no reason for paying more for your men. Then Mr. Scott goes on to say [page 47 of printed Evidence], that the City Force are generally a better class of men; I meet that with an absolute denial; first of all, it is an assertion which, if you will allow me to say so, ought not to have been made without proof, and I believe no proof can be given of it; it is a slur upon a very large body of men, which I believe to be wholly unjustifiable, and it ought not to have been asserted. I will not go into the details with regard to the relative proportion of committals to apprehensions, because really the statements of Mr. Purdy meet all that.

2305. We have the fact before us, from which everyone can draw his own conclusions?—Yes, but I see Mr. Scott departs from, the year 1861, and goes into a comparative statement of eight years [page 49 of printed Evidence]. I have not gone through that; I have not really had the time to do so, nor do I think there is any reason for my doing it. I took the comparison for the year 1861; that was not an exceptional year; it was taken because it was the last year for which the "Judicial Statistics" were published, and it was also the last year for which the census was published. That was my reason for taking it; I did not take it for any supposition of its being more favourable to the Metropolitan Police than to the City Police. I do not believe that it is so. There is one further statement which I should like to notice, which, if correct, would amount to a very heavy imputation against myself of having omitted, I may say dishonestly omitted, the heaviest crime of all, namely, murder, from the comparisons I made. I omitted the crime of murder for this reason; I say that the crime of murder is one of those crimes, the commission of which in no way tests the efficiency of the police: the crime of murder is a crime which is usually committed as a deed of darkness, as it is called, or in a moment of passion, and therefore it is one which no police can be answerable for not preventing. But on seeing this statement, I thought it right to take the 10 cases of murder for that year, and I have taken the trouble to have them investigated, and if you will allow me, I will put in a statement respecting them. I should be glad to have it before the Committee, because I think it will show that in not one of those cases does the slightest blame attach to the police as regards either the non-prevention of the crime, or the non-detection of the criminal, when not detected. I think it is important that the Committee should have this before them, because it affects the fairness of the comparison of the crimes I had made in my letter; therefore, I hope the Committee will allow me to hand it in.

2306. It is not necessary to go into all these details, but if you will hand it in, we will look at it?—This (*handing in the same*) is a statement of every one of the cases of murder in that year. Some of them were committed on the high seas. I should be glad for the Committee to have it before them, because it shows that I did not for any dishonest purpose omit the gravest crime of all. It is charged against me, that I acted very dishonestly in omitting the murders, the heaviest class of crimes, because they told against the Metropolitan Force. There they are in that statement.

2307. Mr. *Sandford.*] You must not suppose that that impression is left for a moment on the minds of the Committee?—I trust not; but it would be satisfactory to me that that document should be put in.

2308. Lord *John Manners.*] Will you point out the exact words in Mr. Scott's evidence, of which you think you have reason to complain upon that point, namely, the omission of the crime of murder? — This is the passage [page 50 of printed Evidence], "I should state that Sir Richard Mayne, in making his calculation, has not accepted the classification of the Home Office. He did not take Class 1, which he should have done, namely, the grave offences, which include murder amongst them, but he has omitted murder from the grave class. I find 10 murders committed in the metropolitan district during the year 1861, and none in the City. He excluded the gravest class of all in making his calculation, and he made up the number, as you see, by adding larcenies from the person, that is, picking pockets, and offences of that class, which are against the City of London, because of the great crowding which takes place in the City thoroughfares, so that there are greater facilities for picking pockets in the City. It seems to me to be an unfair way of arriving at the facts." Now those are charges which I am prepared to meet, if the Committee think it worth while to go into them.

2309. Mr. *Locke.*] You have given your reason why you excluded murder?—Yes; my reason is because I say that not one of those cases in the statement I now offer is chargeable against the police of any place.

2310. Mr. *Mill.*] There is no personal imputation against you conveyed in those words of Mr Scott; he only objects to the principle upon whicl

you proceed?—I am the person who has done what he says is unfair.

2311. There is no imputation upon your intention, or upon your honesty at all. An objection is taken to the principle, which is stated to be unfair in its operation?—I am sure no such imputation could properly have been made; but the words of that passage seem to bear the meaning, that I omitted the class which was against me, in order to make my comparison unfair as against the City.

2312. *Chairman.*] I think it is not necessary to go further into this matter; are there any other points you wish to advert to?—Mr. Scott then refers, as a reproach to the police, to what he calls "the discreditable and dangerous elements of the two forces." That, I apprehend, is a mistake, and must mean, judging from what follows, the residents, or the persons with whom the police have to deal.

2313. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] What question do you refer to?—I have not got the number of the question; but it is on page 50 of Mr. Scott's Evidence. He says, "Further on, Sir Richard Mayne makes remarks respecting the discreditable and dangerous elements of the two forces." Then he goes on to say, "I will give the figures as they appear, for the year 1861, in the Home Office Table. Receivers of stolen goods" prostitutes, and so on. "The result of all these numbers, summing them together for the year 1861, and assuming that the City is about one-seventh or one-eighth of the metropolis" (which I think is a very bold assumption) "as regards its population, is, that the actual share of the City would have been 2,117; but the real share that they have, according to those tables, is only 211." I do not think I need trouble the Committee with these calculations, but he states that the share of the police of the City would have been 2,117 of these discreditable and dangerous elements as he calls them; but the real share which they have, according to this table, is only 211. "That is only one-ninth or one-tenth of the share of those things which would proportionally belong to them." Now, really, I am unable to say why receivers of stolen goods live in one place more than another, or why prostitutes frequent one place more than another. I could give my own reasons, and I think they would be found to be satisfactory but it seems to me that it is no reproach to the police that there are such persons, for the police have no power to deal with them, unless they can be proved to be guilty of some crime. There might be 10,000 prostitutes in the metropolitan district, and none in the City. If that were so, I could easily understand the reason for it, but it would be no reproach to the police. I have not got the details of those classes here, but of not one of those classes can it be said that their existence, or their numbers, form any ground of reproach to the Metropolitan Police; nor, on the other hand, can the absence of them from the City be attributed to the City Police. What the share or the proportion is that should belong to the City, I do not think it is easy to make out; they go, I suppose, where they can best ply their trade. That is the short answer to it. Mr. Scott goes on by saying that he does not place great reliance on figures; that is certainly very reasonable. Then I have got upon my note [page 50 of printed Evidence] what I have already referred to, namely, Sir George Grey's opinion about the inaccuracy of the statistics in my letter to him. I have already said that I am quite sure that there is no foundation for that statement. I was in constant, daily, and most confidential intercourse with Sir George Grey, and he certainly never gave me any such intimation as I am sure he would have done if he felt what Mr. Scott says. The next passage in Mr. Scott's evidence, of which I have a note, is in answer to Mr. Locke [page 51 of printed Evidence] with regard to theatres and saloons, and so forth, and nobody being in the City at night. I have returns here upon that point, if necessary, but I think it is obvious upon the face of it, what is the reason of the absence of these elements of disorder and crime in the City at night, and, indeed, in the day also, which exist in the metropolitan district, and which no police can control. Epsom and Hampton races, &c., and all the balls and parties, and everything of the kind, is in the metropolitan district.

2314. *Chairman.*] Money is made in the City, and spent out of it?—Yes, but we are not so poor out of the City; I have a return here which is curious; I will not mention more than one part of it; it was a calculation made by Dr. Farre, the Deputy Registrar General, at the time the question was referred to him, as to the amount of superannuations that ought to be given to the police; he estimated that the value for which the Metropolitan Police are responsible, of personal property, and so on, amounts to 1,000,000,000 *l.*, so that we are not so very poor. It is said that the thieves go into the City because they have plunder there and there is none elsewhere. But that is not so; we know that jewellers' shops, and similar places which are liable to plunder, are abundant outside the City, in many classes of cases far more so. Then Mr. Scott adopted a question by Mr. Alderman Lawrence; I should not presume to comment upon it as a question, were it not that it is adopted by the witness as implying what is correct. "Those statistics were furnished, I believe, by Sir Richard Mayne, to the Home Office, at the time when he made an attempt to obtain the control of the City Police after the public entry of the Princess Alexandra into London?—They were." [Questions 854, 855.] Now certainly I made no such attempt that attributes to me an influence far greater than I possess. The honourable Member for the City of Westminster at that time, Sir De Lacy Evans, a gentleman with whom I had no personal acquaintance, brought it before the House of Commons, and the late Lord Dalhousie brought it before the House of Lords. I had really nothing whatever to say to it, nor do I know, except on public grounds, why I should wish to have the control of the City Police; it would be additional trouble to me, and nothing more; but I distinctly avow my opinion that the two forces ought to be amalgamated.

2315. You need not go into that point; we are merely dealing with opinions erroneously ascribed to you by a preceding witness?—Yes, I thought as they were on record it was necessary that I should notice them. Mr. Scott says afterwards [Answer to Questions 856, 857] that he has never heard of any instance of the Corporation making any remarks "upon the management of the Metropolitan Police." I do not know whether the Corporation has, but others have.

2316. It is not necessary to go into that; is there anything else which, as regards an imputa-

Sir *R. Mayne*, K.C.B.

30 April 1867.

tion upon you, you wish to refer to?—No; I have now stated all that I have to say upon this point. I have not alluded to these statements in more detail than I thought was requisite, but I have a detailed answer to every one of the assertions. Some of those conclusions are based upon an actuarial calculation as it is stated. I do not make any imputation against the gentleman who may have made the calculation; I have no doubt that whoever made the calculations, made them rightly upon the data which were given to him. I cannot guess how those data were prepared, but I distinctly disavow having said anything to justify such absurd conclusions as were stated by Mr. Scott; I should, indeed, be a fool as well as a rogue if I had made any such statements. That I believe is all that I need say; I am quite aware that you have before you various reports with reference to that attempt of mine, as it is called, to obtain the control of the City Police, the Report of the first Commission on the Corporations of England and Wales recommending the amalgamation; next, the Reports of the two Police Committees of 1834 and 1838; next, the Report of a Royal Commission, which included among its members the very honoured names of the late Sir George Lewis, the late Sir John Patteson, and the present Lord Taunton; all of them recommend the amalgamation. There is one other point which I would refer to, as Mr. Chadwick, a witness who was examined before the Committee, is not present, and as his statement was founded upon what appeared in the Police Committee's Report, I may just advert to Mr. Scott's evidence with regard to it. Mr. Scott states that the saving of 20,000 *l.* is not correct. I forget what are the exact words he uses; not true, not correct, or something of that kind. Now that statement is quite true, as it is taken from the Police Committee's Report of 1834, page 10. The Committee there state, that according to the evidence before them, they believe that a saving to the amount of 20,000 *l.* might be made by the amalgamation.

2317. I think we need not go into this point?—I only advert to it in justice to Mr. Chadwick, who is not present, as he took it from the Police Committee's Report, and as, furthermore, there is now shown to be a saving on the men alone of between 8,000 *l.* and 9,000 *l.* a-year, and as the Commissioners, Lord Taunton, Sir George Lewis, and Sir J. Patteson recommended that the City should be relieved from the payment of 11,000 *l.* I merely mention that as showing another way in which the 20,000 *l.*, if it was any part of the question, might be saved. I am very willing to add answers to any questions which any honourable Member may desire to put to me. I have thought it right to put upon paper these statements with regard to the evidence of Mr. Scott.

2318. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] With regard to the letter of the 1st of April 1863, to Sir George Grey, from which you have read extracts, may I ask whether that letter was written at the request of Sir George Grey, or written with respect to the City Police Force, without any such request?—I really cannot state that now; I rather imagine it was so, but the habits of intercourse between the Commissioner of Police and the Home Secretary are such, that I cannot say what may have passed.

2319. Are you aware how your letter became published in the newspapers?—Certainly; I sent it.

2320. Are you aware how this matter comes before the Committee, with respect to that letter?—I am not sure whether I gave Mr. Chadwick a copy of it; I am sure if he asked for it, I would have done so.

2321. Are you aware that Mr. Chadwick put in that letter to this Committee, and stated that he had full reliance upon it, because the statistics had been made out by Sir Richard Mayne?—I am not; I have not seen Mr. Chadwick's evidence; I believe, but I am not quite sure, that I gave a copy of that letter to Mr. Chadwick at the time, and since that there has been no difficulty in getting it; I would have given it to any gentleman; it was published.

2322. Are you aware that the evidence of Mr. Scott was given in reply to the statements and statistics contained in that letter?—As soon as I saw the report of Mr. Scott's evidence, I knew he was making observations upon that letter, which was sent officially to the Police Committee of the Corporation in 1863.

2323. Are you aware whether the Corporation of London has at any time made out any statement with respect to the Metropolitan Police, as comparing that force with the City Police, and whether they have sent that statement to the Government except when their force has been attacked, and there has been an attempt to amalgamate the two forces?—I may answer in this way; I do not believe that they have ever sent any statement to the Home Secretary, but they had the letter which they might have answered if they could, in 1863; I see they treated it, according to Mr. Scott's advice, as he tells the Committee [page 51 of printed Evidence], with what I may call dignified and contemptuous silence he says, "the Police Committee met and consulted me about it, and the Police Commissioner and myself said, it was so utterly fallacious that it was unworthy of an answer, and that it would give it too much importance to reply to it." I do not see any explanation why a different course is taken now; it was a letter sent formally and officially by Sir George Grey to the Corporation, as I must call it, to the Committee of Police.

2324. Mr. *Tite.*] It was sent to Mr Lott, was it not?—Yes, to Mr. Lott, as the sub-chairman of the Police Committee, and Mr. Scott states that he was consulted, and advised them then, that it was so inaccurate that it was not deserving of any notice, and he adds, a reply was sent to that effect. No such reply was sent either to the police office or to the Home Secretary.

2325. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] The statement is perfectly correct, is it not, that all the calculations in your letter were based upon the sleeping population of the City of London; the 113,000?—No, not all my calculations, as to population they are.

2326. The basis of your calculations with regard to population was taken from the sleeping population of 113,000?—Yes, it was taken from the Census Report.

2327. With regard to the superannuation fund, you alluded to a sum of 42,242 *l.*, being transferred; is that amount of money paid out of the taxes levied upon the inhabitants of the metropolis?—It is paid out of the Metropolitan Police Fund; that fund is raised partly upon the assessment of rates, and partly by Parliament. A statement with regard to it is before the Committee, and it is also laid before Parliament every year.

2328. Mr.

2328. Mr. *Tite.*] The rating is supplemented by a contribution from Government, is it not?—No; not exactly; to the extent of one-fourth it is paid by Parliament by annual Vote. The whole police fund is raised in this way: three-fourths paid by the rates upon the parishes, and one-fourth by an annual Vote of Parliament, or it is, rather, one-third; the proportions are 6 *d.* and 8 *d.*; 2 *d.* is paid by Parliament and 6 *d.* by the rates. Out of that fund, which is the whole fund for the police purposes of the metropolis, the contribution I have spoken of is made, and it is made under an Act of Parliament passed six or seven years ago; I forget the date of it.

2329. Mr. Alderman *Lawrence.*] I believe, from what you have stated in your evidence, you consider that a small police force, like that of the City of London, must be inferior to a large force like the Metropolitan Police Force?—Yes, in efficiency; certainly not in the individuals composing it, but in the efficiency of its operations, it must necessarily be inferior, I conceive.

2330. Then the difference between the evidence given by Mr. Scott, to which you object, and your own evidence, is that Mr. Scott stated that the City of London force was superior to the Metropolitan, and you have stated in your evidence that it is inferior in efficiency?—No; I beg your pardon, it goes further than that. Mr. Scott's evidence does not refer to the general efficiency of the force, but it is that the men are of better character. I think his expression was, "a better class of men."

2331. I think you have stated that you consider that it is some complaint against the police force of a district if thieves go out of some other district into that district to commit crime?—Certainly, the inference always is so; I always maintain it so between the different divisions of the Metropolitan Police.

2332. Therefore, if thieves come out of the out-lying districts into the City of London to commit robberies, it is an imputation upon the City Police force?—Yes, it must be so.

2333. The fact of thieves coming out of one district into another to commit crime implies that the police are not so effective in that district into which those thieves come, according to your view?—Yes, I think so. There can be no doubt, I think, about it.

2334. You think that thieves do not go, as other people do for other purposes, to rob where there is the most to rob, and where there are the most people to rob?—No, I think there is plenty everywhere; they go where they are most likely to effect their object, and least liable to be detected. I would instance what was called the Cornhill or the City burglaries. In that case the men came from "an out-lying district" of the metropolis, and the first information I had in that case was some three months before the men were brought before the magistrate. We then felt little doubt who the persons were, but the City police knew nothing of it, and perhaps could not have known anything of it, because the parties were living out of their district.

2335. Then I may put the question in another form; you think that if the City of London police were in as efficient a state as the police force outside the City, there would not be any temptation for thieves to flock into the City of London as they do now?—I beg to decline to answer that question, because the efficiency of a police force depends upon the advantages or disadvantages under which they act. I do not think it possible for the City police to be as efficient as those who are in so large a district as that surrounding the City. I have said before in that letter, as well as before Committees, that it is not to be expected that the Metropolitan Police will take the same interest in watching persons into the City of London as they would, and as it is their duty to do, into their different districts of the metropolis.

2336. Your opinion is, that if the City Police were amalgamated and formed one with the Metropolitan Police, there would not be that rush of thieves into the City that there is now?—Unquestionably.

2337. I think you stated that you do not find fault with the men and officers of the City Police, but with the system?—I do not find fault with them, nor do I praise them. I know nothing about them. I certainly do not find fault with them, because I have no grounds for doing so. I find great fault with the system, necessarily. If you look at the map, it is obvious that a little district of that kind separated from all the police in the surrounding districts, must be a sort of residium or receptacle for thieves and persons coming from other districts.

2338. I believe those have been your views which you have consistently expressed for many years?—I believe I have expressed them whenever I have been questioned; they are views which I believe to be perfectly sound.

2339. And therefore Mr. Scott was not very far wrong when he stated, perhaps rather fully, that it was your wish and desire that there should be only one police force for the metropolis, and that the City Police should be merged in it?—That was not the statement: he said, "When Sir Richard Mayne made an attempt;" my wish and desire, I do not hesitate to avow it to be, but I made no attempt. I think it would have been very disrespectful on my part if I, in my position, had done so.

2340. You stated something with regard to the waste of force; will you explain what you mean by the waste of force in the police?—That is not exactly my word; but my meaning is, that there are more police employed in the City than under a better system would be necessary.

2341. In your view, if the two forces were amalgamated, you think it could be managed with a less number of police than the present number?—I should not like off-hand to state that. I am accustomed, before giving an opinion, to make inquiries on the subject. I should like first to look into the details of the City Police duties, which I never have had an opportunity hitherto of doing; but that is my strong impression, not to say more.

2342. Does not your letter bear the interpretation, that the inhabitants of the City are taxed more for the present police than they would be if they were under a combined system?—I have shown that every City policeman costs 13 *l.* 15 *s.* a year more than those of the Metropolitan Force.

2343. And therefore the inhabitants would save money if the two forces were amalgamated?—Certainly. I think that is a necessary consequence if you employ men at 13 *l.* 15 *s.* a head less.

2344. Mr. *Locke.*] Was I right in supposing that an understanding had been come to between the two forces, your Metropolitan Police Force and the City Police Force, in regard to bad characters?—No; there is no understanding.

2345. No understanding has ever been come to?

Sir *R Mayne*, K.C.B.
30 April 1867

to?—Never; I do not think that there has ever been any communication upon the subject.

2346. Then are the two forces entirely distinct one from the other; is there no intercommunication whatever?—There is this amount of intercommunication with regard to the crimes which are committed in the metropolitan district: we circulate printed information about those crimes six times every day round all the stations in the metropolitan district; and for the last ten years we have sent them to the City Police stations, giving them the information also. It is a sort of short Police Gazette, conveying the information more speedily.

2347. Those are sent to the City Police stations as well as to your own stations?—Yes.

2348. Those are the crimes that have been committed?—Yes.

2349. After they have been committed?—Yes, when a crime is committed, and information is received of it at the police office. Three times every day information is sent round to all the police stations of crimes that are reported at the office.

2350. That is, after the crime has been committed?—Yes.

2351. But, supposing that you are aware that a crime is about to be committed, and you have your eye upon the particular individuals who are about to commit it, do you communicate to the City Police that a crime is about to be committed in their district, giving your suspicions, and the reason for them?—I do not think it is ever done; in fact, looking at the way in which police information is received, it could hardly be done; I do not say absolutely that it could not be done.

2352. Supposing a crime were about to be committed, we will say, in the Hampstead-road, and your police had obtained information that persons were about to commit it, would it not be in the course of your duty to communicate with the station down in the Hampstead-road, to tell the officers there to look out?—Certainly, there are various measures which we take in such a case, and that is one of them.

2353. You do not do that supposing a crime is about to be committed in the City?—No, I am not aware that I have ever had such a case in regard to the City, because the information which comes to me has reference to what it is the duty of the police to look after.

2354. You do not give information to the City Police then?—Yes, I am sure if I had the knowledge that a distinct crime was to be committed at a particular place in the City, I should communicate it to the City Police.

2355. I understood you to say that three months before the robbery in Cornhill was committed, you knew that it was going to be committed?—No, I said after the offence was committed for three months before the parties were apprehended I had my eye upon them. As soon as the offence was committed it became a matter of inquiry, and I say we knew three months before the parties were apprehended who they probably were.

2356. Then for three months you knew, or thought you knew who the parties were who committed the robbery, did you communicate that fact to the City Police?—Certainly, there was an officer of the City Police, Serjeant Haydon, who co-operated with the Metropolitan Police in the matter.

2357. You did make a communication on that occasion to the City Police?—Yes, certainly.

2358. I understood you to say before that you did not?—No, I said that they knew nothing of the parties whom we suspected; I made a communication about it, and then Serjeant Haydon co-operated with the Metropolitan Police; I have written a memorandum to this effect: "Let every information be communicated to this serjeant which will assist in the detection of the criminals." He behaved very properly, and gave great assistance and followed up; but the information was originally obtained by the Metropolitan Police.

2359. Mr. *Tite.*] Have you any doubt at all from your great experience in these matters, that if the City Police was united with the Great Metropolitan Force, the duties would be done cheaper and better; I ask for your own opinion only?—None whatever.

Benjamin Scott, Esq.; further Examined.

B. Scott, Esq.

2360. *Chairman.*] Do you wish to give any explanation of any of those portions of your evidence to which Sir Richard Mayne has referred?—I am anxious to remove any impression from Sir Richard Mayne's mind that I have imputed anything wrong to him; I certainly called in question his figures, and do so now, entirely from beginning to end, but I had not the least intention of imputing anything improper to him. Sir Richard Mayne alleged that I said "that the City Police were men of a better character than the Metropolitan Police." I did not refer to their character. My words are these, "The City Police are an inch higher in the standard than the Metropolitan Police, and they are generally a better class of men; they are paid a little higher wages." I was speaking of a class as regards pay. I did not impute anything whatever against Sir Richard Mayne; it would have been unbecoming in me to do so.

2361. Is there any other erroneous quotation of your evidence?—Those are the two principal things. I may say also that I did not impute to Sir Richard Mayne that he had omitted "murder" from his classification from any improper motive

APPENDIX.

LIST OF APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

Papers handed in by Mr. Corrie: Page

Return relating to Traffic in the City of London - - - - - - - - 155

Summary of Business at the Mansion House, 1843 to 1863 - - - - - 155

Appendix, No. 2.

PAPERS handed in by Mr Benjamin Scott, 28 March 1867:

Districts of the Metropolis arranged in their Order according to the relative Number of Houses of 13 *l.* Rental - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 156

Return of the Residences of Persons proceeded against, on Indictment and Summarily, in the Year ending 29 September 1864, as appearing in the "Judicial Statistics," 1864, distinguishing the Number of those residing in and out of the City of London 156

Summary of Crimes of every Description in the Eight Years from 1858 to 1865, comparing the same in the Metropolitan and City Police Districts, compiled from the Volumes of "Judicial Statistics" for that Period - - - - - - - 157

Comparative Efficiency of the Metropolitan and City Police Forces, tested by Offences Summarily determined in the Eight Years 1858—65 (Compiled from "Judicial Statistics") - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 158

Tabular Abstract of Indictable Offences in the Eight Years 1858 to 1865, showing the relative Proportion of the Police Districts to their respective Populations; the Number of Criminals in each District Yearly; and the General and Annual Excess of Criminals above the Proportionate Number (Compiled from "Judicial Statistics," using the Classification therein adopted) - - - - - - - - - - 158

Table of Disreputable and Dangerous Elements in the Metropolitan Police District and in the City of London, for the Eight Years 1858 to 1865 (extracted from "Judicial Statistics") - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 159

Appendix, No. 3.

Paper handed in by Mr. Scott, 1 April 1867:

Fiscal Power of each Member of the Metropolitan Board of Works - - - 160

Districts represented on Metropolitan Board of Works; the existing proportion of Members to Board of 45 Members; the Members which would be proportioned to each District on the grounds of Rateability and Population, and of both united; and the same proportion of a Board of 90 Members - - - - - - - 161

Appendix, No. 4.

Papers handed in by Mr. Benjamin Scott, 11 April 1867:

Improvements, Public Works, and Buildings undertaken by the Corporation of London under the authority of Parliament or in virtue of their own Corporate Powers, from the date of the Building of Blackfriars Bridge in 1759 to the present time - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 162

Letter from the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, to the City Remembrancer, dated 26 February 1863 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 163

Appendix, No. 5.

Paper handed in by Mr. Medwin, 1 April 1867:

Metropolitan Improvement Rate Bill - - - - - - - - - - 164

Appendix, No. 6.

Papers handed in by Mr. Rendle, 4 April 1867 : Page

Election of Guardians for the Year 1866.—Voting Paper for the Parish of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark - - - - - - - - - - - - - 165

Appendix, No. 7.

Papers handed in by Sir John Thwaites, 4 April 1867 :

Return of Brick and Pipe Sewers, 1856-7 to 1865-6, sanctioned for Execution by Vestries and District Boards - - - - - - - - - - - - 166

Return of Lengths of New Sewers sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works for Execution by Vestries and District Boards from March 1856 to March 1866 - 167

List of the Members of the Metropolitan Board of Works, January 1867 - - 170

Return of the Assessment of Property in the Metropolitan District on the County Rate Basis - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 171

Schedule (A.)—Parishes - - - - - - - - - - - - 171

Schedule (B.)—Districts - - - - - - - - - - - - 171

List of the Acts of Parliament which have conferred Powers upon the Metropolitan Board of Works - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 172

Moneys owing at the Formation of the Board, viz., 1st January 1856.—Borrowed by the late Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers - - - - - - - - - 178

Amounts Borrowed by the Board since its formation, with the Dates, and Rates of Interest thereon ; the Purposes for which they were intended, and the Security given for the same ; the Amounts paid off, with the Dates of Payment ; and the Amounts owing the Board on the 1st January 1867 - - - - - - - - - - - 179

Return showing the rateable Annual Value on the 1st January 1856 of the Property in the City of London and the several Parishes of the Metropolis within the Jurisdiction of the Board, upon which the Board assessed the City of London and Parishes ; also showing the Rateable Annual Value on the 1st January in each succeeding Year, to which is added the Rateable Annual Value now in preparation for the Main Drainage Rate, but not yet approved by the Board - - - - - 180

Appendix, No. 8.

Papers handed in by Dr. Letheby, 8 April 1867 ;

Number of Inspections of Houses and of Orders issued for Sanitary Improvement in the City of London in each of the last Eleven Years - - - - - - - 186

Deaths from Cholera per 100 attacked during Epidemic of 1866 - - - - - 186

Total Number of Deaths in the City in 1849 to 1856, with the proportion of Alvine Disorders - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 186

Proportions of Deaths from Cholera in London and other Cities and Towns of Europe 187

Comparison of Death-Rate per 1,000 of the Population in City of London and elsewhere 187

Death-Rate per 1,000 of Population in following Towns and Cities of England, and Scotland, and Ireland, during the Summer Quarter of 1866 - - - - - - 187

Appendix, No. 9.

Paper furnished by the Chairman ;

Order of Poor Law Board - - - - - - - - - - - - - 188

Appendix, No. 10.

Papers relating to Metage, handed in by the Agent of Messrs. Millis Coventry, Edward Hales, J. B. Perks, Henry F. Tiarks (of the Firm of Messrs. Schröder & Co.), and S. W. Keene - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 193

Appendix, No. 11.

Metropolitan Board of Works : Page
Statement relative to the Chief Bars and Street Obstructions in the Metropolis - 195

Appendix, No. 12.

Summary of Powers and Duties of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London, and the means by which such Powers and Duties are carried into effect - - - 199

Improvements.—Sums expended by the Commissioners of Sewers therein, in following Years - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 201

Appendix, No. 13.

Local Acts of the Metropolis - - - - - - - - - - - - 202

Parishes in Schedule A. of 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120 - - - - - - - - - 202

Parishes in Schedule B. of 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120 - - - - - - - - - 206

Appendix, No. 14.

Returns, from each Parish and Extra-parochial Place within the Metropolitan Area under the Jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board of Works, of the Assessment upon which such Parishes and Places were Assessed to the Property Tax (Schedule (A.), Police Rate, County Rate, and Poor's Rate, for the Year ending Lady-day 1863 - - 211

Return from the City of London of the Assessment upon which such City was Assessed to the Property Tax, Schedule (A.), Year 1862, ended 5th April 1863 - - - 212

Return of the Assessment of the Consolidated Rate, 1862 - - - - - - 212

APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Corrie*.

RETURN relating to TRAFFIC in the City of *London*.

App. No. 1.

(Answer to Question 795.)

Old Change - - - -	Room for one vehicle only, except for a short portion of its length (40 feet).
Friday Street - - -	Room for one vehicle only, except for a short portion of its length (110 feet).
Bread Street - - - -	Room for two vehicles, or rather more than half of its length.
Bow Lane - - - -	One vehicle only.
Queen Street - - -	Two vehicles.
Walbrook - - - -	One vehicle only, except for a short length of street.
Old Jewry - - - -	Two vehicles.
Ironmonger Lane - - -	One vehicle, except for a very short length.
King Street - - - -	Three vehicles.
Lawrence Lane - - -	One vehicle, except for a short length.
Milk Street - - - -	Two vehicles for the greater portion of its length.
Wood Street - - - -	Two vehicles, the greater portion of its length.
Gutter Lane - - - -	One vehicle.
Foster Lane - - - -	Two vehicles, the greater portion of its length.

SUMMARY of BUSINESS at the MANSION HOUSE, 1843 to 1863.

In Mayoralty of	Prisoners.	Committed for Trial.	Acquitted.	Juvenile Offenders.		Petty Sessions.	Summonses Issued.	Heard at Mansion House.	Heard at Police Committee.
				Male.	Female				
Sir William Magnay, Bart. -	2,932	155	23	-	-	-	937	787	150
Mr. Alderman Gibbs - -	3,512	245	48	-	-	-	2,733	1,596	1,137
Mr. Alderman John Johnson	3,690	229	36	-	-	-	3,352	3,203	149
Sir George Carroll - -	3,967	374	45	-	-	-	3,812	2,225	1,587
Mr. Alderman Hooper - -	4,320	273	37	-	-	-	4,788	2,416	2,372
Sir James Duke, Bart. - -	4,147	194	17	-	-	-	4,694	1,697	2,997
Mr. Alderman Farncombe -	3,862	186	30	-	-	-	3,440	1,796	1,644
Sir John Musgrove, Bart. -	3,845	246	27	-	-	-	3,920	1,859	2,061
Mr. Alderman Hunter - -	3,726	200	21	97	8	-	3,665	2,170	1,495
Mr. Alderman Challis - -	3,205	209	23	115	11	-	3,130	1,383	1,747
Mr. Alderman Sidney - -	3,275	241	30	113	18	-	2,669	1,117	1,552
Sir Francis G. Moon, Bart. -	2,748	184	20	139	12	-	2,659	1,305	1,354
Mr. Alderman Salomons -	3,019	185	36	167	14	97	2,123	1,110	1,013
Mr. Alderman Finnis - -	2,928	225	27	133	16	115	2,156	1,230	926
Sir Robert W. Carden - -	2,563	212	24	97	22	68	2,409	1,113	1,296
Mr. Alderman Wire - -	2,085	168	29	86	7	55	1,868	865	1,003
Mr. Alderman Carter - -	2,314	181	19	58	10	64	2,336	924	1,412
Mr. Alderman Cubitt - - (First Mayoralty).	2,611	158	21	55	6	61	1,035	1,035	Issued by Clerk of Special Sessions at Guildhall.
Mr. Alderman Cubitt - - (Second Mayoralty).	3,311	208	15	69	8	58	941	941	
Mr. Alderman Rose - -	3,396	259	40	77	5	55	1,134	1,134	
	65,456	4,332	568	1,206	137	573	53,801	29,906	23,895
Average - - -	3,272	216	28	100	11	71	2,690	1,495	1,405

Appendix, No. 2.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Benjamin Scott*, 28 March 1867.

App. No. 2.

DISTRICTS of the Metropolis arranged in their Order according to the relative Number of Houses of £.13 Rental.

DISTRICTS.	Relative Number of £.13 Houses.	DISTRICTS.	Relative Number of £.13 Houses.
1. City of London	162,302	20. St. Giles's	20,954
2. St. George's, Hanover-square	82,824	21. St. Martin	20,410
3. Marylebone	81,057	22. Camberwell	19,230
4. St. Pancras	71,220	23. Clerkenwell	18,634
5. Islington	59,817	24. Newington	18,461
6. Paddington	58,334	25. Limehouse	18,046
7. Lambeth	49,000	26. St. George's-in-the-East	15,147
8. Kensington	38,548	27. Holborn	14,970
9. St. James, Westminster	35,540	28. St. Olave's with Rotherhithe	14,938
10. Lewisham	31,635	29. Bethnal Green	14,778
11. Shoreditch	29,695	30. Mile End Old Town	14,696
12. Hackney	28,508	31. St. Luke's	14,342
13. Wandsworth	27,800	32. Fulham	13,221
14. Poplar	26,486	33. St. Saviour's, Southwark	12,615
15. Westminster	26,137	34. Bermondsey	11,538
16. Chelsea	23,066	35. St. John's, Hampstead	11,355
17. Strand	22,062	36. St. George's, Southwark	11,230
18. Whitechapel	21,271	37. Woolwich	6,384
19. Greenwich	21,152		

It will be seen that measured by a uniform common standard the City of London stands, as it regards houses, nearly 100 per cent. above the highest district of the Metropolis.

RETURN of the Residences of Persons proceeded against, on Indictment and Summarily, in the Year ending 29 September 1864, as appearing in the "Judicial Statistics," 1864, distinguishing the Number of those residing in and out of the City of London.

CRIMINALS and OFFENDERS.		Residing in City.	Residing out of City.						
			Middlesex.	Surrey.	Kent.	Essex.	Elsewhere.	Out of City, but Residence unknown.	TOTAL.
Persons proceeded against on Indictment.	717	163	308	82	10	6	45	103	554
Persons proceeded against Summarily	8,924	2,183	4,914	1,151	63	33	70	510	6,741
Grand Total	9,641		5,222	1,233	73	39	115	613	–
TOTAL residing in the City		2,346	TOTAL residing out of City						7,295

SUMMARY of CRIMES of every Description in the Eight Years from 1858 to 1865, comparing the same in the Metropolitan and City Police Districts, compiled from the Volumes of "Judicial Statistics" for that Period.

	INDICTABLE OFFENCES.									SUMMARY JURISDICTION—Offences under.*									
	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865	Total of Eight Years.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	Total of Eight Years.	Grand Totals.
METROPOLITAN POLICE DISTRICT.																			
Crimes charged - - - - -	10,285	10,253	10,546	11,203	12,230	12,824	12,291	12,923	92,555										
Apprehensions - - - - -	4,200	4,216	3,746	3,972	4,725	4,984	5,088	4,993	35,924	98,037	84,399	80,477	79,337	84,356	83,373	84,551	91,579	686,109	722,033
Discharged - - - - - -	1,533	1,235	957	982	1,392	1,220	1,207	1,058	9,584	45,038	39,382	37,169	37,698	39,404	36,672	37,731	41,979	315,073	324,657
Committed - - - - - -	2,667	2,981	2,789	2,990	3,333	3,764	3,881	3,935	26,340										
Convicted - - - - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	52,999	45,017	43,308	41,639	44,952	46,701	46,820	49,600	371,036	397,376
CITY OF LONDON.																			
Crimes charged - - - - -	1,018	940	893	1,029	1,059	1,212	1,238	931	9,140										
Apprehensions - - - - -	754	648	569	704	689	783	717	747	6,550	5,940	4,656	6,151	5,749	6,914	7,667	8,924	8,574	54,575	60,186
Discharged - - - - - -	347	329	249	355	310	324	336	339	3,111	1,441	1,018	1,333	1,634	2,062	2,117	2,436	2,269	14,310	16,899
Committed - - - - - -	407	319	320	349	379	459	381	408	3,439										
Convicted - - - - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4,499	3,638	4,818	4,115	4,852	5,550	6,488	6,305	40,265	43,287

* In "Judicial Statistics" there is no entry of "Crimes Charged" as distinct from Apprehensions in respect of Offences decided summarily.

COMPARATIVE EFFICIENCY of the Metropolitan and City Police Forces, tested by Offences Summarily determined in the Eight Years 1858—65 (Compiled from "Judicial Statistics").

	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	TOTAL of Eight Years.
APPREHENSIONS.									
Metropolitan Police District - -	98,037	84,399	80,477	79,337	84,356	83,373	84,551	91,579	686,109
City of London Police District - -	5,940	4,656	6,151	5,749	6,914	7,667	8,924	8,574	54,575
DISCHARGED.									
Metropolitan Police District - -	45,038	39,382	37,169	37,698	39,404	36,672	37,731	41,979	315,073
City of London Police District - -	1,441	1,018	1,333	1,634	2,062	2,117	2,436	2,269	14,310
CONVICTIONS.									
Metropolitan Police District - -	52,999	45,017	43,308	41,639	44,952	46,701	46,820	49,600	371,036
City of London Police District - -	4,499	3,638	4,818	4,115	4,852	5,550	6,483	6,305	40,265

EFFICIENT APPREHENSIONS RESULTING IN CONVICTIONS.

Metropolitan Police District - - (371,036 Convictions to 686,109 Apprehensions) = 54·0 per cent.
City of London - - - - (40,265 Convictions to 54,575 Apprehensions) = 73·7 per cent.

INEFFICIENT APPREHENSIONS RESULTING IN DISCHARGES:

Metropolitan Police District - - (315,073 Discharges to 686,109 Apprehensions) = 45·9 per cent.
City of London - - - - (14,310 Discharges to 54,575 Apprehensions) = 26·2 per cent.

TABULAR ABSTRACT OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES in the Eight Years 1858 to 1865, showing the relative Proportion of the POLICE DISTRICTS to their respective Populations; the Number of Criminals in each District Yearly; amd the General and Annual Excess of Criminals above the Proportionate Number. Compiled from "Judicial Statistics," using the Classification therein adopted.

OFFICIAL CLASSIFICATION.	Eight Years' Totals.	1858.		1859.		1860.		1861.		1862.		1863.		1864.		1865.		Class Totals.		Proportion of Crimes according to Population.		Excess of Crimes above Proportion according to Population.	
		Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Metropolitan Police District.	City.	Of Metropolitan Police District.	Of City.	Of Metropolitan Police District.	Of City.
Class 1. Offences against the Person - -	3,722	341	32	380	18	270	20	291	25	442	23	562	13	645	18	627	15	3,558	164	2,973	749	585	–
Class 2. Offences against Property, with violence.	4,275	448	33	488	28	386	30	420	40	504	58	558	51	526	59	604	42	3,934	341	3,415	860	19	–
Class 3. Offences against Property, without violence.	84,889	8,465	824	8,618	739	9,240	731	9,912	817	10,253	826	10,719	982	10,177	1,014	10,812	760	78,196	6,693	67,813	17,076	10,383	–
Class 4. Malicious offences against Property -	267	24	1	18	–	18	–	23	–	40	2	58	2	42	1	35	3	258	9	213	54	45	–
Class 5. Forgery and offences against the Currency.	5,295	933	72	680	85	583	58	518	67	586	84	530	93	487	7	392	52	4,709	586	4,230	1,065	479	–
Class 6. Not included in the above Classes -	2,427	74	56	69	70	49	54	39	80	405	66	397	71	414	71	453	59	1,900	527	1,939	488	–	39
GRAND TOTAL - -	100,875	10,285	1,018	10,253	940	10,546	893	11,203	1,029	12,230	1,059	12,824	1,212	12,291	1,238	12,293	931	92,555	8,320	80,583	20,292	12,011	39

TABLE of DISREPUTABLE and DANGEROUS ELEMENTS in the Metropolitan Police District and in the City of *London*, for the Eight Years, 1858 to 1865 (extracted from "Judicial Statistics").

	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	Total Eight Years.	Actual Annual Average.	Per-Centage.
Receivers of Stolen Goods known to the Police:											
Metropolitan Police District	224	185	229	232	257	234	258	216	1,835	229	96·0
City of London	9	11	12	11	12	9	9	7	80	10	4·0
Houses for the Reception of Stolen Goods:											
Metropolitan Police District	134	142	163	181	188	185	193	155	1,341	167	95·0
City of London	8	9	9	11	11	9	8	7	72	9	5·0
Brothels and Houses of Ill Fame:											
Metropolitan Police District	2,008	1,893	1,706	1,601	1,535	1,314	1,313	1,185	12,555	1,569	99·4
City of London	10	9	10	9	9	11	9	8	75	9	0·6
Other Houses, the resort of Thieves and Prostitutes:											
Metropolitan Police District	603	613	613	567	493	403	486	390	4,168	521	91·7
City of London	77	59	47	44	43	45	30	35	380	47	8·3
Known Thieves and Depredators:											
Metropolitan Police District	3,001	2,765	2,906	2,961	2,584	2,580	2,756	2,871	22,424	2,803	97·9
City of London	120	80	54	57	53	61	33	25	483	60	2·1
Suspected Persons at Large:											
Metropolitan Police District	1,919	2,015	2,130	1,974	1,863	2,020	2,335	2,261	16,517	2,064	96·8
City of London	160	113	54	51	37	35	43	57	550	68	3·2
Prostitutes known or suspected as Depredators:											
Metropolitan Police District	7,105	6,696	6,881	7,096	5,747	5,550	5,649	5,888	50,612	6,326	99·0
City of London	89	153	59	28	48	31	40	23	471	59	1·0

The Total for the Metropolitan Police District in Eight Years is - - - - - - - - 109,452
The like for the City Police District is - - - - - - - - - - - - 2,111

Appendix, No. 3.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *Scott*, 1 April 1867.

App. No. 3.

FISCAL POWER of each Member of the METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

Districts of Metropolitan Board of Works.	District Rateability.	Members returned to Metropolitan Board of Works.	Fiscal Power of each Member.
	£.		£.
City of London	2,109,925	3	703,045
St. George, Hanover Square	1,076,722	2	538,361
St. Marylebone	1,053,748	2	526,874
St. Pancras	925,872	2	462,936
Islington	777,632	2	388,816
Paddington	758,344	1	758,344
Lambeth	637,000	2	318,500
Kensington	501,132	1	501,132
St. James, Westminster	462,032	1	462,032
Lewisham	411,260	1	411,260
Shoreditch	386,044	2	193,022
Hackney	370,616	1	370,616
Wandsworth	361,400	1	361,400
Poplar	344,320	1	344,320
Westminster	339,660	1	339,360
Chelsea	299,868	1	299,868
Strand	286,808	1	286,808
Whitechapel	276,530	1	276,530
Greenwich	274,976	1	274,976
St. Giles-in-the-Fields	272,412	1	272,412
St. Martin-in-the-Fields	265,336	1	265,336
Camberwell	250,000	1	250,000
Clerkenwell	242,254	1	242,254
Newington	240,000	1	240,000
Limehouse	234,608	1	234,608
St. George-in-the-East	196,917	1	196,917
Holborn	194,619	1	194,619
Rotherhithe and St. Olave	194,200	1	194,200
Bethnal Green	192,116	1	192,116
Mile End Old Town	191,056	1	191,056
St. Luke	186,452	1	186,452
Fulham	171,876	1	171,876
St. Saviour	164,000	1	164,000
Bermondsey	150,000	1	150,000
Hampstead	147,624	1	147,624
St. George, Southwark	146,000	1	146,000
Woolwich	83,000	1	83,000

DISTRICTS represented on METROPOLITAN BOARD of WORKS; the existing proportion of Members to Board of 45 Members; the Members which would be proportioned to each District on the grounds of Rateability and Population, and of both united; and the same proportion of a Board of 90 Members.

I.

Districts represented on the Metropolitan Board of Works.	District Rateability.	District Population.	Existing Number of Members Returned.	Members Proportioned to Rateability.	Members Proportioned to Population.	Members Proportioned to Population and Rateability.	Members Proportioned to a Board of 90 Members.
	£.						
City of London	2,109,935	283,520	3	6·2	4·5	5·3	10·7
St. George, Hanover Square	1,076,722	87,771	2	3·2	1·4	2·3	4·6
St. Marylebone	1,053,748	161,680	2	3·1	2·5	2·9	5·6
St. Pancras	925,872	198,788	2	2·7	3·1	2·9	5·8
Islington	777,632	155,341	2	2·3	2·4	2·3	4·7
Paddington	758,344	75,784	1	2·2	1·2	1·7	3·4
Lambeth	637,000	162,044	2	1·8	2·5	2·1	4·3
Kensington	501,132	70,108	1	1·5	1·1	1·3	2·6
St. James, Westminster	462,032	35,326	1	1·4	·5	1·0	1·9
Lewisham	411,260	65,737	1	1·2	1·0	1·1	2·2
Shoreditch	386,044	129,364	2	1·1	2·0	1·5	3·1
Hackney	370,616	83,295	1	1·1	1·3	1·2	2·4
Wandsworth	361,400	70,403	1	1·0	1·1	1·0	2·1
Westminster	339,660	67,890	1	1·0	1·0	1·0	2·0
Poplar	344,320	79,196	1	1·0	1·2	1·1	2·2
Chelsea	299,868	63,439	1	.8	1·0	·9	1·8
Strand	286,808	42,898	1	·8	·6	·7	1·2
Whitechapel	276,530	78,970	1	.8	1·2	1·0	2·0
Greenwich	274,976	85,975	1	·8	1·3	1·0	2·1
St. Giles-in-the-Fields	272,412	54,076	1	·8	·8	·8	1·4
St. Martin-in-the-Fields	265,336	22,689	1	·7	·3	·5	1·0
Camberwell	250,000	71,488	1	·7	1·1	·9	1·8
Clerkenwell	242,254	65,681	1	·7	1·0	·9	1·7
Newington	240,000	82,220	1	·7	1·3	1·0	2·0
Limehouse	234,608	56,572	1	·7	·9	·8	1·6
St. George-in-the-East	196,917	48,891	1	·6	·7	·7	1·3
Holborn	194,619	45,463	1	·6	·7	·7	1·3
Rotherhithe and St. Olave	194,200	43,558	1	·6	·6	·6	1·2
Bethnal Green	192,116	105,101	1	·6	1·6	1·1	2·2
Mile End Old Town	191,056	73,064	1	·5	1·1	·8	1·6
St. Luke	186,452	57,073	1	·5	·9	·7	1·4
Fulham	171,876	40,058	1	·5	·6	·5	1·0
St. Saviour	164,000	36,170	1	·5	·5	·5	1·0
Bermondsey	150,000	58,355	1	·4	·9	·6	1·3
Hampstead	147,624	19,106	1	·4	·3	·4	·7
St. George, Southwark	146,000	55,510	1	·4	·8	·6	1·2
Woolwich	83,000	41,695	1	·2	·6	·4	·8

II.

Districts of Metropolitan Board.	Proportionate Number of Representatives. Board of 45.	Proportionate Number of Representatives. Board of 90.	Districts of Metropolitan Board.	Proportionate Number of Representatives. Board of 45.	Proportionate Number of Representatives. Board of 90.
1. City of London	5	11	20. Chelsea	1	2
2. St. Pancras	3	6	21. Camberwell	1	2
3. St. Marylebone	3	6	22. Clerkenwell	1	2
4. Islington	2	5	23. Limehouse	1	2
5. St. George, Hanover Square	2	5	24. Mile End Old Town	1	2
6. Lambeth	2	4	25. St. Giles-in-the-Fields	1	1
7. Paddington	2	3	26. St. Luke	1	1
8. Shoreditch	1	3	27. Bermondsey	1	1
9. Kensington	1	3	28. Rotherhithe and St. Olave	1	1
10. Hackney	1	2	29. St. George-in-the-East	1	1
11. Lewisham	1	2	30. Holborn	1	1
12. Bethnal Green	1	2	31. Strand	1	1
13. Wandsworth	1	2	32. St. George, Southwark	1	1
14. Poplar	1	2	33. Fulham	0	1
15. Greenwich	1	2	34. St. Martin	0	1
16. Westminster	1	2	35. St. Saviour	0	1
17. Whitechapel	1	2	36. Woolwich	0	1
18. Newington	1	2	37. Hampstead	0	1
19. St. James, Westminster	1	2			

Fractions under 6 disregarded. Fractions over 6 treated as units.

Appendix, No. 4.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Benjamin Scott*, 11 April 1867.

IMPROVEMENTS, PUBLIC WORKS, and BUILDINGS undertaken by the Corporation of London under the authority of Parliament or in virtue of their own Corporate Powers, from the date of the Building of Blackfriars Bridge in 1759 to the present time.

Dates.	IMPROVEMENTS, &c.	In what District of Metropolis.	Net Cost.
			£
1759 and 1812	Building, &c. Blackfriars Bridge	London and Surrey	230,000
1767	Removing the tolls on London Bridge	London and Southwark	30,000
1768	Repairing the Royal Exchange	London	10,000
1769 and 1785	Rebuilding Newgate and Sessions House	For London, Middlesex, &c.	90,000
1778 and 1784	Paving of Goswell-street	Middlesex	5,000
1778 and 1815	Improvement, Moorfields and Bishopsgate	- ditto	16,500
1795 and 1811	Improvement, Temple Bar, Strand, &c.	London and Middlesex	246,300
1796 and 1800	Repairing the Common Sewer in Bridge-street	London	9,000
1803—4	Making Coal Exchange a free market	- ditto	25,600
1812 and 1820	Building Debtors' Prison	London and Middlesex	95,000
1812 and 1820	Improvement in Moorfields	London	5,000
1815 and 1824	Providing Site for the General Post Office	- ditto	80,000
1824 and 1833	Rebuilding London Bridge (exclusive of contribution from Treasury).	London and Southwark	483,732
1824 and 1846	Approaches to London Bridge, north and south sides	- ditto	1,021,421
1825 and 1831	Farringdon street and removal of Fleet Market	London	250,000
1839 and 1852	Formation of Farringdon New Street	- ditto	70,633
1839 and 1844	Enlarging the site of the Royal Exchange	- ditto	228,578
1839 and 1844	Erection of Royal Exchange (City's moiety)	- ditto	85,000
1847 and 1851	Building New Coal Market, and widening Thames-street and St. Mary-at-Hill.	- ditto	122,643
1851	Formation of Clerkenwell New Street	Middlesex	88,000
1850 and 1851	Building House of Correction at Holloway	For City of London	92,700
1852 and 1856	Providing New Cattle Market for the Metropolis at Copenhagen-fields.	For whole Metropolis	443,000
1850 and 1862	Forming New Cannon-street, and improving Queen-street, Holborn-bridge, Field-lane, Gracechurch-street, Finch-lane, &c.	London	540,000
1864, &c.	Raising Holborn Valley, to present date	London and Middlesex	1,000,000
1863	Rebuilding Blackfriars Bridge	London and Southwark	350,000
1835 and 1837	Building City of London School	London	21,000
1851 and 1853	Building Freeman's Orphan Asylum	London	18,000
1862 and 1866	Providing Pauper Lunatic Asylum	London	76,880
1857—58 1861—62	Alterations and Improvements at Newgate Prison	For London and Middlesex	25,646
1862, &c.	New Metropolitan Meat and Poultry Market and Approaches.	For whole Metropolis	655,000
1866	Contract for purchase of Southwark Bridge	London and Southwark	200,000
1782 and 1866	Votes by the Corporation out of the City's Cash in aid of setting back houses, and widening streets and thoroughfares.	London	128,220
		£.	6,742,853

The above does not include Improvements effected by the Commissioners of Sewers out of rates levied in the City, nor contributions out of City's Funds for Improvements in the Metropolis.

11 April 1867. *Benjamin Scott*, Chamberlain.

LETTER from the Right Hon. *W. F. Cowper* to the City Remembrancer, dated 26 February 1863. App. No. 4.

Dear Sir, Office of Works, 26 February 1863.

I HAVE to thank you for the alterations you suggested in the draft of the London Coal and Wine Duties Continuance Bill, and I trust that the two Bills I have introduced for making the street between Blackfriars and the Mansion House are satisfactory to those who represent the Corporation of London.

In order to guard against the possibility of a misunderstanding, I may perhaps be allowed to remind you that I have several times expressed my wish that the Corporation would undertake to make this street out of funds at their disposal, and that I have always been told that it is impossible for them to do so, as they have not funds sufficient for the purpose. It was on this conviction that I prepared the Bills of last year and of the present Session for enabling the Metropolitan Board to make the street out of the 9 *d.* Coal Duty which has been confided by Parliament to them.

If, however, any means have been discovered by which the street could be made out of the proceeds of the 4 *d.* Coal Duty, or out of the property of the Corporation, so that the proceeds of the 9 *d.* duty might be applied by the Metropolitan Board to improvements in other parts of the metropolis, it is very important that I should be informed of it before Monday next, as the second reading of these Bills has been fixed for that day.

I am, &c.

To the City Remembrancer. (signed) *W. Cowper.*

Appendix, No. 5.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *Medwin*, 1 April 1867.

App. No. 5.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENT RATE BILL.

This Bill has met with the most decided opposition from Parishes, District Boards of Wor Wards of the City of London, and various Authorities connected with the Metropolis.

Many of the districts and parishes which have not petitioned have recorded their sentiments passing Resolutions disapproving of the provisions of the Bill.

The following Petitions against the Bill have been already presented:—

The Vestry of St. Anne's, Westminster.
The Woolwich Local Board of Health.
Mile End Old Town.
St. Matthew, Bethnal Green.
Holborn District.
St. Mary, Islington.
The St. Luke's Parochial Reform Association.
St. Pancras Public Meeting.
The Vestry of St. Mary, Lambeth.
The Guardians of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green.
The Ratepayers of St. George's, Hanover-square.
The Ratepayers of St. Anne, Limehouse.
The Vestry of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.
The Right Honourable the Marquis of Salisbury.
City of London Public Meeting of Ratepayers.
Ward of Bishopsgate.
Langbourn Ward.
Cripplegate Wards, Within and Without.
Ward of Farringdon Without.
The Right Honourable Lord Southampton.
The Drapers' Company.
The Paddington Vestry.
The Greenwich Vestry.
The Greenwich District Board of Works.
The Grocers' Company.
The Regent's Canal Company.
The Vestry of St. James, Westminster.
The Westminster District Board of Works.
St. Mary-le-Strand.
The Vestry of St. Giles, Camberwell.
The Vestry of Rotherhithe.
The Tower Ward.
Bermondsey.
The St. Saviour's Southwark District Bo of Works.
The Vestry of St. George, Hanover-square.
The Fishmongers' Company.
The Board of Guardians St. George's-in-t East.
The Hackney Union Guardians.
The Vestry of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.
The Vestry of St. John's, Wapping.
The Right Honourable the Earl of Cadoga
The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common the City of London.
The Vestry of St. James and St. Jo Clerkenwell.
The Commissioners of Sewers of the City London.
The Ratepayers and Inhabitants of Metrop (four Petitions).
Kennington.
The New River Company.
The Vestry of St. Pancras.
The Vestry of St. Botolph Without, Bisho gate.
The Inhabitants and Ratepayers of Aldg Ward.
Public Meeting of Ratepayers and Inhabit of Greenwich.
The Trustees of Rugby Charity.
The Goldsmiths' Company.
The Ratepayers and Inhabitants of War worth.
The Ratepayers and Inhabitants of Clapha
Public Meeting of Ratepayers and Inhabit of Bermondsey.
Four thousand Ratepayers of St. Pancras.

Appendix, No. 6.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Rendle*, 4 April 1867.

Election of Guardians for the Year 1866.

App. No. 6

VOTING PAPER for the Parish of ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK.

Number of Voting Paper.	Name and Address of Voter.	NUMBER OF VOTES.	
		As Owner.	As Ratepayer.

DIRECTIONS to the Voters.

The Voter must write his Initials against the Name of every Person for whom he Votes, and must sign this Paper.

If the Voter cannot write, he must affix his Mark, but such Mark must be attested by a Witness, and such Witness must write the Initials of the Voter against the Name of every Person for whom the Voter intends to Vote.

If a Proxy Vote, he must in like manner write his Initials, sign his own Name, and state in writing the Name of the Person for whom he is Proxy; thus, "JOHN SMITH for RICHARD WILLIAMS."

This Paper must be carefully preserved by the Voter, as no second Paper will be given. When it is filled up it must be kept ready for delivery to the Constable of the METROPOLITAN POLICE FORCE, who will call for the same on the Seventh day of April. No other Person is authorised to receive the Voting Paper.

If the Voting Paper be not ready for the Person appointed to collect it, when called for, the Vote will be lost. It will also be lost if more than Eighteen Names be returned in the List, with the Initials of the Voter placed against such Names, or if the Voting Paper be not signed by the Voter, or if the Mark of the Voter be not attested when attestation is required.

No.	Initials of the Voter against the Name of the Person for whom he intends to Vote.	Names of the Persons Nominated as Guardians.	Residence of the Persons Nominated.	Quality or Calling of the Persons Nominated.	Names of the Nominators.	Address of the Nominators.	Opinion of the Clerk as to Disqualification.

I Vote for the Persons in the above List against whose Names my Initials are placed.

Signed _____ (or Mark of) _____

Witness to the Mark _____

Or _____ for _____

PARISH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that the Election of Guardians of the Poor of the Parish of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, in the County of Surrey, was conducted in conformity with the Order of the Poor Law Commissioners, and that the entries contained in the Schedule hereunder written are true.

No.	Names of Persons Nominated as Guardians.	Residence.	Quality or Calling.	Number of Votes given for each Candidate.	Names of the Guardians Elected.

Given under my hand this 13th day of April 1866.

John H. Fitch,
Clerk to the Guardians of the
Poor of the Parish of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark,
in the County of Surrey.

Appendix, No. 7.

PAPERS handed in by Sir *John Thwaites*, 4 April 1867.

App. No. 7.

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

RETURN of Brick and Pipe Sewers, 1856–7 to 1865–6, sanctioned for Execution by Vestries and District Boards.

Length of New Sewers sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works for Execution by Vestries and District Boards.

Year.	Brick Sewers.	Pipe Sewers.	Total Lengths.	
	Feet.	*Feet.*	*Miles.*	*Feet.*
1856-7 - - - -	132,475	101,622	44	1,777
1857-8 - - - -	116,071	126,809	46	—
1858-9 - - - -	95,754	88,037	34	4,271
1859-60 - - - -	68,342	90,652	30	594
1860-1 - - - -	59,904	69,448	24	2,632
1861-2 - - - -	43,158	48,429	17	1,827
1862-3 - - - -	75,056	78,761	29	697
1863-4 - - - -	152,940	93,951	46	4,011
1864-5 - - - -	154,286	106,621	49	2,187
1865-6 - - - -	279,367	318,023	113	750
	1,177,353	1,122,353	435	2,906
	Or, 222 miles 5,193 feet Brick Sewers.	Or, 212 miles 2,993 feet Pipe Sewers.	435 miles	2,906 feet.

ETURN of Lengths of NEW SEWERS sanctioned by the METROPOLITAN BOARD of WORKS for Execution by VESTRIES and DISTRICT BOARDS from March 1856 to March 1866.

		1856–7.	1857–8.	1858–9.	1859–60.	1860–1.	1861–2.	1862–3.	1863–4.	1864–5.	1865–6.	GRAND TOTAL.
Marylebone -	Brick	892	9,961	1,276	688	–	4,420	4,824	1,100	1,910	4,598	29,669
	Pipe	875	2,612	641	1,273	484	1,670	1,686	1,272	1,640	426	12,579
TOTALS - -		1,767	12,573	1,917	1,961	484	6,090	6,510	2,372	3,550	5,024	42,248
Pancras - -	Brick	3,625	1,300	8,002	6,534	4,579	2,414	7,356	3,313	8,593	5,381	51,097
	Pipe	1,105	–	80	410	1,120	–	280	199	–	170	3,364
TOTALS - -		4,730	1,300	8,082	6,944	5,699	2,414	7,636	3,512	8,593	5,551	54,461
nbeth - -	Brick	14,164	700	–	2,600	1,240	–	3,205	39,306	–	31,555	92,770
	Pipe	11,540	5,912	–	1,570	–	–	5,738	500	–	13,895	37,555
TOTALS - -		25,704	6,612	–	4,170	1,240	–	8,943	39,806	–	43,850	130,325
George, Hano- er Square -	Brick	756	889	2,404	1,996	–	1,087	–	68	2,610	4,355	14,165
	Pipe	915	979	927	–	89	–	214	–	–	1,550	4,674
TOTALS - -		1,671	1,868	3,331	1,996	89	1,087	214	68	2,610	5,905	18,839
Mary, Islington	Brick	10,970	7,075	8,829	9,977	3,637	5,907	6,458	20,929	13,519	4,330	91,631
	Pipe	5,969	6,530	7,979	7,630	2,426	5,305	5,144	11,295	5,520	7,234	65,032
TOTALS - -		16,939	13,605	16,808	17,607	6,063	11,212	11,602	32,224	19,039	11,564	156,663
Leonard, Shore- itch - - -	Brick	2,212	3,918	2,360	3,654	645	–	2,423	–	900	–	16,112
	Pipe	1,850	1,262	1,400	2,756	1,591	–	1,630	1,566	1,224	–	13,279
TOTALS - -		4,062	5,180	3,760	6,410	2,236	–	4,053	1,566	2,124	–	29,391
ddington - -	Brick	12,908	6,150	5,440	11,218	4,441	6,605	1,603	8,470	3,170	11,383	70,388
	Pipe	1,284	90	802	1,180	–	–	–	240	–	–	3,596
TOTALS - -		14,192	6,240	6,242	12,398	4,441	6,605	1,603	8,710	3,170	11,383	74,984
Matthew, Beth- al Green - -	Brick	7,149	3,387	3,180	2,450	–	550	510	1,300	–	–	18,526
	Pipe	15,653	7,178	14,177	8,910	5,877	460	2,060	18,870	–	2,840	76,025
TOTALS - -		22,802	10,565	17,357	11,360	5,877	1,010	2,570	20,170	–	2,840	94,551
Mary, Newing- on, Surrey -	Brick	110	1,844	–	1,670	2,785	3,966	320	–	1,280	–	11,975
	Pipe	1,430	8,698	2,000	6,860	3,134	6,033	2,965	3,795	4,360	4,880	44,155
TOTALS - -		1,540	10,542	2,000	8,530	5,919	9,999	3,285	3,795	5,640	4,880	56,130
mberwell - -	Brick	5,943	5,030	3,895	2,720	8,171	–	4,840	14,957	15,670	26,285	87,511
	Pipe	2,495	7,098	200	4,503	13,864	550	2,050	12,902	16,274	27,451	87,387
TOTALS - -		8,438	12,128	4,095	7,223	22,035	550	6,890	27,859	31,944	53,736	174,898
James, Westmin- ster - - -	Brick	–	1,100	430	–	–	–	–	–	496	–	2,026
	Pipe	–	730	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	730
TOTALS - -		–	1,830	430	–	–	–	–	–	496	–	2,756
. James and St. ohn, Clerkenwell	Brick	650	510	290	1,790	–	–	–	340	–	–	3,580
	Pipe	1,210	550	–	240	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,000
TOTALS - -		1,860	1,060	290	2,030	–	–	–	340	–	–	5,580

RETURN of Lengths of New Sewers sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works, &c.—*continued.*

		1856–7.	1857–8.	1858–9.	1859–60.	1860–1.	1861–2.	1862–3.	1863–4.	1864–5.	1865–6.	GRAND TOTAL.
Chelsea	Brick	164	296	363	665	–	–	630	924	834	–	3,876
	Pipe	2,592	389	240	–	50	226	346	–	–	–	3,843
TOTALS		2,756	685	603	665	50	226	976	924	834	–	7,719
St. Mary Abbotts, Kensington	Brick	7,953	3,134	4,885	3,142	7,550	7,124	8,778	7,140	24,166	11,879	85,742
	Pipe	56	1,858	806	1,282	1,210	1,220	1,929	1,775	224	800	10,360
TOTALS		8,009	4,992	5,691	4,424	8,760	8,344	10,707	8,915	24,390	12,670	96,902
St. Luke, Middlesex	Brick	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Pipe	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark	Brick	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Pipe	–	938	376	2,310	606	620	2,848	2,118	76	1,196	11,088
TOTALS		–	938	376	2,310	606	620	2,848	2,118	76	1,196	11,088
Bermondsey	Brick	996	500	–	–	2,000	100	–	96	5,555	2,281	11,52
	Pipe	5,026	1,461	2,028	524	3,094	100	–	–	4,476	10,675	27,38
TOTALS		6,022	1,961	2,028	524	5,094	200	–	96	10,031	12,956	38,91
St. George-in-the-East.	Brick	1,780	4,392	456	1,725	1,460	–	194	–	–	–	10,00
	Pipe	–	415	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	41
TOTALS		1,780	4,807	456	1,725	1,460	–	194	–	–	–	10,42
St. Martin-in-the-Fields.	Brick	–	416	158	–	–	–	108	430	–	60	1,17
	Pipe	–	78	–	–	–	140	–	–	–	100	31
TOTALS		–	494	158	–	–	140	1	430	–	160	1,49
Hamlet of Mile End, Old Town	Brick	5,515	–	4,862	1,320	1,300	855	720	205	190	790	15,75
	Pipe	6,328	1,595	14,080	10,430	400	1,395	4,974	2,218	2,380	1,460	45,26
TOTALS		11,843	1,595	18,942	11,750	1,700	2,250	5,694	2,423	2,570	2,250	61,01
Woolwich	Brick	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Pipe	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Rotherhithe	Brick	6,585	975	85	100	100	200	180	–	–	590	8,81
	Pipe	4,743	450	720	100	1,600	–	2,761	–	240	1,150	11,76
TOTALS		11,328	1,425	805	200	1,700	200	2,941	–	240	1,740	20,57
St. John, Hampstead	Brick	1,646	420	21,543	518	1,637	500	3,446	5,911	540	23,114	59,27
	Pipe	1,425	483	17,919	–	450	500	1,183	1,161	876	1,748	25,74
TOTALS		3,071	903	39,462	518	2,087	1,000	4,629	7,072	1,416	24,862	85,0
Whitechapel District	Brick	176	2,341	13,355	420	985	395	–	2,625	1,395	–	21,69
	Pipe	695	475	1,837	–	250	–	–	–	–	180	3,43
TOTALS		871	2,816	15,192	420	1,235	395	–	2,625	1,395	180	25,1
Westminster District	Brick	316	–	–	–	740	–	–	437	355	–	1,8
	Pipe	350	–	–	–	220	–	–	240	250	–	1,0
TOTALS		666	–	–	–	960	–	–	677	605	–	2,9

RETURN of Lengths of New Sewers sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works, &c.—*continued.*

		1856–7.	1857–8.	1858–9.	1859–60.	1860–1.	1861–2.	1862–3.	1863–4.	1864–5.	1865–6.	GRAND TOTAL.
reenwich District	Brick	–	2,350	–	86	–	–	–	–	–	43,395	45,831
	Pipe	360	478	–	97	–	–	–	–	2,030	99,762	102,727
TOTALS - -		360	2,828	–	183	–	–	–	–	2,030	143,157	148,558
andsworth Dis-trict - - -	Brick	6,882	5,230	–	2,339	3,054	150	13,729	7,793	1,675	85,362	126,214
	Pipe	15,396	7,565	5,435	3,375	8,940	7,851	11,439	12,156	14,590	120,466	207,213
TOTALS - -		22,278	12,795	5,435	5,714	11,994	8,001	25,168	19,949	16,265	205,828	333,427
ackney District -	Brick	8,506	31,590	1,036	2,030	8,870	1,490	6,490	2,650	4,762	7,234	74,658
	Pipe	7,235	42,480	2,699	770	5,085	9,017	16,532	4,565	14,443	9,780	112,606
TOTALS - -		15,741	74,070	3,735	2,800	13,955	10,507	23,022	7,215	19,205	17,014	187,264
. Giles District -	Brick	270	168	850	1,003	820	–	1,080	1,330	751	2,764	9,036
	Pipe	267	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	267
TOTALS - -		537	168	850	1,003	820	–	1,080	1,330	751	2,764	9,303
olborn District -	Brick	470	–	170	–	–	560	960	870	140	–	3,170
	Pipe	90	750	330	–	–	1,230	–	–	–	–	2,400
TOTALS - -		560	750	500	–	–	1,790	960	870	140	–	5,570
rand District -	Brick	425	2,350	350	400	280	275	261	2,300	–	–	6,641
	Pipe	440	580	60	410	340	–	–	2,000	–	–	3,830
TOTALS - -		865	2,930	410	810	620	275	261	4,300	–	–	10,471
lham District -	Brick	620	1,620	–	–	240	–	3,400	8,500	22,886	7,170	44,436
	Pipe	416	–	–	320	5,922	–	1,472	1,590	3,725	1,060	14,505
TOTALS - -		1,036	1,620	–	320	6,162	–	4,872	10,090	26,611	8,230	58,941
nehouse District	Brick	1,490	10,260	540	800	–	–	1,591	–	860	–	15,541
	Pipe	1,040	8,375	1,261	1,020	340	490	2,963	860	2,640	339	19,328
TOTALS - -		2,530	18,635	1,801	1,820	340	490	4,554	860	3,500	339	34,869
lar District -	Brick	7,012	5,160	870	3,830	2,870	290	450	4,291	–	–	24,773
	Pipe	6,022	3,744	4,623	12,278	9,623	1,264	3,969	12,157	3,290	3,614	60,584
TOTALS - -		13,034	8,904	5,493	16,108	12,493	1,554	4,419	16,448	3,290	3,614	85,357
. Saviour's Dis-trict - - -	Brick	–	1,649	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,649
	Pipe	–	8,457	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	8,457
TOTALS - -		–	10,106	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10,106
umstead District -	Brick	–	–	2,320	2,375	–	1,350	1,500	3,366	36,429	4,705	52,045
	Pipe	–	1,259	2,797	7,076	–	5,940	5,448	1,500	18,299	1,150	43,469
TOTALS - -		–	1,259	5,117	9,451	–	7,290	6,948	4,866	54,728	5,855	95,514
wisham District -	Brick	21,710	1,350	7,805	2,292	2,500	4,920	–	13,264	5,600	2,145	61,586
	Pipe	4,730	4,320	4,620	15,328	2,733	3,416	1,130	2,772	10,064	7,697	56,810
TOTALS - -		25,440	5,670	12,425	17,620	5,233	8,336	1,130	16,036	15,664	9,842	118,396
. Olave District -	Brick	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,025	–	–	1,025
	Pipe	–	200	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	200
TOTALS - -		–	200	–	–	–	–	–	1,025	–	–	1,225
ar Department -	Brick	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Pipe	–	–	–	–	–	1,002	–	–	–	–	1,002
TOTALS - -		–	–	–	–	–	1,002	–	–	–	–	1,002

App. No 7.

January 1867.

LIST of the Members of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

Sir JOHN THWAITES, J.P. & D.L., Chairman.

Adams, B. H., Esq., J.P., Barrister.	St. Giles - - -	55, Torrington-square, W. C.
Beven, Thomas, Esq., D.L. -	St. Matthew, Bethnal-green	Stanley Villa, King Edward's-road, Hackney-road, N. E.
Bidgood, Henry, Esq. - -	St. James, Westminster -	7, Vigo-street, Regent-street, W.
Brooker, James, Esq. - -	Plumstead District, united with Lewisham District.	Brockley Park, Forest-hill, S. E.
Brushfield, Thomas, Esq. -	Whitechapel - - -	5, Church-street, Spitalfields, N. E.
Carpmael, W., Esq., C.E. -	Wandsworth - - -	24, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, W. C.
Clark, W., Esq. - - -	St. George-in-the-East -	52, Wellclose-square, E.
Clarke, F., Esq. - - -	Hackney - - -	Prospect Villa, Stoke Newington-road, N.
Collinson, E., Esq. - - -	St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark.	95, Blackman-street, Southwark, S. E.
Cook, E. R., Esq. - -	Poplar - - - -	Craven Cottage, Wellington-road, Bromley, E.
Dalton, W. H., Esq. - -	St. Martin-in-the-Fields -	28, Cockspur-street, S. W.
Dixon, Benjamin, Esq., J.P. -	Limehouse - - -	3, Norway-place, Commercial-road, East, E.
Doulton, Fred., Esq., M.P. -	Lambeth - - -	High-street, Lambeth, S.
Elt, Chas. H., Esq. - - -	St. Mary, Islington -	1, Noel-street, Islington, N.
Evans, B., Esq., Surgeon -	St. Mary, Newington, Surrey.	Acre House, Brixton, S.
Freeman, Robert, Esq. - -	St. Mary Abbot, Kensington.	12, Upper Phillimore-place, Kensington, W.
Hall, J. O., Esq., Solicitor -	Holborn - - -	1, Brunswick row, Queen-square, W. C.
Harris, Charles, Esq. - -	St. Saviour's, Southwark -	15, Fenchurch-street, E. C.
Healey, F., Esq., J.P. - -	St. Pancras - - -	7, Euston-grove, Euston-square, N. W.
Hogg, Colonel, M.P. - -	St. George, Hanover-square	24, Wilton-crescent, S. W.
Hows, W. A. H., Esq. - -	St. Leonard, Shoreditch -	179, Kingsland-road, N. E.
Hudson, George, Esq. - -	Woolwich - - -	Brewer-street, Woolwich, S. E.
Lammin, W. H., Esq., Solicitor	Fulham - - - -	5, John-street, Adelphi, W. C.
Le Breton, P. H., Esq., Barrister	Hampstead - - -	22, Thurlow-road, Hampstead, N. W.
Legg, Cyrus, Esq. - - -	Bermondsey - - -	Bermondsey-street, S. E.
Long, Jeremiah, Esq. - -	St. Leonard, Shoreditch -	13, Park-street, Westminster, S. W.
Moreland, Joseph, Esq. - -	St. Luke, Middlesex -	7, Highbury New Park, N.
Newton, W., Esq. - - -	Mile End Old Town -	35, Arbour-square, E.
Nicholay, John Augustus, Esq.	St. Marylebone - -	82, Oxford-street, W.
Pew, James, Esq. - - -	Camberwell - - -	304, Southampton-street, Camberwell, S.
Phillips, John S., Esq. - -	Strand - - - -	5, Bishop's-court, Lincoln's-Inn, W. C.
Richardson, G. B., Esq. - -	Greenwich - - -	10, Stainton-place, Shooter's-hill-road, Blackheath, S. E.
Roche, C. M., Esq., Solicitor -	Paddington - - -	98, Gloucester-terrace, Hyde Park, W.
Saunders, J. E., Esq. - -	City of London - -	9, Finsbury-circus, E. C.
Savage, John, Esq. - -	St. Mary, Islington -	54, Thornhill-square, Islington, N.
Shaw, A. N., Esq. - - -	St. Marylebone - -	31, York-place, Portman-square, W.
Stone, D. H., Esq., Ald. - -	City of London - -	13, Poultry, E. C.
Taylor, Hy. Lowman, Esq., J.P.	City of London - -	10, Queen-street, Cheapside, E. C.
Taylor, Robert, Esq. - -	Lambeth - - -	11, Terrace, Kennington-park, S.
Taylor, Silas, Esq. - - -	St. Pancras - - -	Leighton House, Leighton-road, Kentish-town, N. W.
Thompson, E. J., Esq. - -	St. James and St. John, Clerkenwell.	20, Douglas-road, Canonbury, N.
Tite, William, Esq., M.P. -	Chelsea - - - -	42, Lowndes-square, S. W.
Turner, Thomas, Esq., J.P. -	The Parish of Rotherhithe, united with St. Olave District.	Treasurer's House, Guy's Hospital, S. E.
Westerton, Charles, Esq. -	St. George, Hanover-square	27, St. George's-place, Hyde-park, S. W.
White, Thos. J., Esq. -	Westminster - - -	11, Parliament-street, S. W.

App. No. 7.

Metropolitan Board of Works

Return of the Assessment of Property in the Metropolitan District on the County Rate Basis.

Schedule (A.)—Parishes.

PARISHES.	Number of Houses.	Rateable Value of Houses, as per County Rate Assesssment.	Rateable Value converted into Number of Houses at the Average Value of £. 38. 18. 9. per House.	Aggregate Number.	Number of Members returned.
		£.	£.		
St. Pancras - - -	21,928	925,872	23,932	45,860	2
St. Marylebone - -	16,370	1,053,748	27,238	43,608	2
Islington - - - -	20,676	777,632	20,104	40,780	2
Lambeth - - - -	23,001	637,000	16,465	39,466	2
St. George, Hanover-square	10,421	1,076,272	27,819	38,240	2
Paddington - - -	9,729	758,344	19,601	29,330	1
Shoreditch - - -	17,231	386,044	9,978	27,209	2
Kensington - - -	9,487	501,132	12,954	22,441	1
Bethnal Green - -	14,812	192,116	4,965	19,777	1
Newington - - -	12,815	240,000	6,203	19,018	1
Camberwell - - -	12,122	250,000	6,462	18,584	1
Chelsea - - - -	8,318	299,868	7,751	16,069	1
Mile End Old Town -	10,768	191,056	4,940	15,708	1
St. James, Westminster -	3,331	462,032	11,942	15,273	1
Clerkenwell - - -	7,086	242,524	6,268	13,354	1
Bermondsey - -	8,211	150,000	3,878	12,089	1
St. George's, East - -	6,187	196,745	5,085	11,272	1
St. Luke - - -	6,368	186,452	4,820	11,188	1
St. George's, Southwark -	7,234	146,000	3,773	11,007	1
St. Martin-in-the-Fields -	2,283	265,336	6,859	9,142	1
Woolwich - - -	4,596	83,000	2,145	6,741	1
Hampstead - - -	2,653	147,624	3,816	6,469	1
Rotherhithe - - -	3,529	83,500	2,158	5,687	1
	239,156	9,252,297	239,156	478,312	
City of London - -	13,260	2,117,925	54,745	68,005	3

Schedule (B.)—Districts.

DISTRICTS.	Number of Houses.	Rateable Value, as per County Rate Assessment.	Rateable Value converted into Number of Houses at the Average Value of £. 35. 5. 9 per House.	Aggregate Number.	Number of Members returned.
		£.	£.		
Hackney - - - -	13,412	370,616	10,503	23,915	1
Wandsworth - - -	11,136	361,400	10,241	21,377	1
Greenwich - - -	13,230	274,976	7,792	21,022	1
Poplar - - - -	11,163	344,320	9,758	20,921	1
Whitechapel - - -	11,798	277,748	7,871	19,669	1
Limehouse - - -	7,465	234,804	6,654	14,119	1
Westminster - - -	3,713	339,660	9,625	13,338	1
St. Giles - - -	4,662	277,412	7,861	12,523	1
Strand - - - -	3,778	286,808	8,128	11,906	1
Fulham - - - -	6,638	171,876	4,870	11,508	1
Plumstead - - -	5,917	183,850	5,210	11,127	1
Lewisham - - -	4,450	227,410	6,447	10,897	
Holborn - - - -	4,188	194,619	5,515	9,703	1
St. Saviour - - -	4,495	164,000	4,647	9,142	1
St. Olave, united with Rotherhithe.	2,214	110,700	3,137	5,351	–
	108,259	3,820,199	108,259	216,518	

App. No. 7. LIST of the ACTS of PARLIAMENT which have conferred Powers upon the METROPOLITAN BOARD of WORKS.

Metropolitan Sewers Act, 11 & 12 Vict. c. 112 (1848.)

This is an Act to consolidate and continue in force for Two Years, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers. 4th September 1848.

THIS Act was repealed by the Metropolis Local Management Act, 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120, s. 145.

It vested the sewers in, and transferred the debts and liabilities to, the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers.

Metropolis Management Act, 1855, 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120.

THE Metropolitan Board of Works was constituted a corporation by this Act, and to have perpetual succession, and a common seal; the Board to be comprised as follows:

City of London, three members.

Vestries and parishes in first part of Schedule A., two members each.

Vestries of parishes in second part of Schedule A., and Boards of Districts in first part of Schedule B., one member each.

Districts of Plumstead and Lewisham, united, to elect one member.

Parish of Rotherhithe and district of St. Olave, united, to elect one member.

The various duties of the Board are defined, and comprise:

To execute works to prevent sewage passing into the Thames, &c.

To control construction of sewers by vestries, &c.

To regulate naming of streets and numbering of houses.

To control the line of buildings in streets.

To make improvements.

To recover rates made by Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers.

To enter into contracts to carry Act into execution.

To purchase and lease lands.

To dispose of lands not wanted.

To issue precepts to the Chamberlain of the City of London and vestries and district Boards.

To levy improvement rates, and borrow on mortgage.

To make parks and open spaces.

To construct works on banks of Thames.

To take the county rate or other similar estimate as the basis of their assessments.

To cause any building to be set back projecting beyond general line.

To permit formation of streets of less width than 40 feet.

With other powers and provisions to enable Board to levy rates, carry out works, &c.

The Metropolis Management Amendment Ac 1856, 19 & 20 Vict. c. 112.

This is an Act to amend the Act of the last Se sion of Parliament, chapter 120, for the bett Local Management of the Metropolis. 29 July 1856.

THIS Act was passed for the purpose of (among other things) authorising the application by t Board to Parliament to provide parks and op spaces for the improvement of the Metropolis a the public benefit of the inhabitants.

The Metropolis Management Amendment A 1862, 25 & 26 Vict. c. 102.

This is an Act to amend the Metropolis Loc Management Acts. 7th August 1862.

BY this Act the debt in respect of Counte Creek works, Ravensbourne works, and Victori street sewer, was settled and apportioned; t sums to be assessed for defraying the expenses the Board, and the mode of assessment, are settl It repeals part of the section 58 of 18 & 19 Vi c. 120, and enacts that the Board should be liberty to instruct committees on any busine deputed to them, and regulate the conduct of su business.

It also repeals the 157th section of the Act 1855, relative to the breaking up of turnpi roads. It contains provisions as to the allowar by auditors; as to the drainage of land by own at their own expense; powers to restrain the co struction of sewers without approval of Boa powers to vestries to make drinking fountains; effect improvements; Board to regulate the p jection of buildings beyond the general line frontage in streets; the height of buildings; affixing of names to streets; the disfiguring streets by bills, &c.; the keeping of swine in proper places; the licensing of cow-houses a slaughter-houses; the removal of manure; the gulating the width of streets; the discontinu the appointments of inspectors of weights a measures; and the extension of the time making Finsbury Park.

Section 87 repeals the 141st section of the of 1855, with respect to the naming of streets numbering of houses; and, in lieu, it is enact that Vestries and District Boards may affix name of any street in their jurisdiction, and t the Board may alter the name of any street, the names of streets must first be submitted the Board, and powers are given to the Boar number the houses in any street.

Main Drainage Act, 1858, 21 & 22 Vict. c. 1

This is an Act to alter and amend the Metrop Local Management Act, 1855, and to ext the Powers of the Metropolitan Board of W for the Purification of the Thames and the M Drainage of the Metropolis. 2nd August 18

UNDER this Act the Board was empowere make any work through, along, over, or under bed and soil and banks and shores of the R Tha

Thames for the purposes of the Act. Powers are given under the Act to raise a sum not exceeding 3,000,000 *l.* for the purposes of the Act; to raise a rate equivalent to 3 *d.* in the pound during 40 years, from the passing of the Act.

Section 25 of this Act repeals the 136th section of the Act of 1855, and so much of the 144th section as provides "that before the Metropolitan Board of Works commence any such works, the estimated expense whereof shall exceed 50,000 *l.*, the plan of such works, together with an estimate of the cost of carrying the same into execution, shall be submitted by such Board to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings, and no such plan shall be carried into effect until the same has been approved by such Commissioners; and no such works shall be commenced in cases where the estimated expense thereof shall exceed the sum of 100,000 *l.*, without the previous sanction of Parliament."

The Metropolitan Main Drainage Extension Act, 1863, 27 & 28 Vict. c. 68.

This is an Act to extend the Powers of the Act relating to the Main Drainage of the Metropolis. 21st July 1863.

Under this Act the Board was empowered to borrow a further sum of 1,200,000 *l.* in addition to the sums authorised by the Act of 1858 to be borrowed for the Main Drainage of the Metropolis; and the time for the completion of the works was extended to the 31st day of December 1866.

Metropolitan Main Drainage Extension Act, 1865, 28 Vict. c. 19.

This is an Act to extend the period for borrowing the sum authorised to be raised under the Metropolitan Main Drainage Extension Act, 1863. 9th May 1865.

The time for the Board borrowing any sums of money for the purposes of the main drainage works, under this Act, is extended to the 31st day of December 1867.

---

24 & 25 Vict. c. 42.

This is an Act to continue the Duties levied on Coal and Wine by the Corporation of London. 22nd July 1861.

Under this Act power was given to continue the duties on coal and wine from 1862 till the 5th day of July 1872, the proceeds of the duties, after paying all charges on the London Bridge Approach Fund, to be paid to an account to be opened in the names of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury at the Bank of England, to be entitled "The Thames Embankment and Metropolis Improvement Fund," and such fund to be applied to the improvement of the Metropolis.

---

26 & 27 Vict. c. 46.

This is an Act for further continuing and appropriating the London Coal and Wine Duties. 13th July 1863.

Under this Act the London coal and wine duties are continued until 5th day of July 1882; the net proceeds of the duty of 4 *d.*, part of the duty of 12 *d.*, to be applied to the raising of Holborn Valley, and afterwards to other improvements in or adjacent to the City of London.

---

25 & 26 Vict. c. 93.

This is an Act for embanking the North Side of the River Thames from Westminster Bridge to Blackfriars Bridge, and for making new Streets in and near thereto. 7th August 1862.

Under this Act the Board is empowered to construct an embankment wall on the north side of the River Thames, and to make new streets in connection therewith; and the works under this Act are to be paid for out of the coal and wine duties, power being given to the Board to raise money upon the security of these funds.

---

26 & 27 Vict. c. 75.

This is an Act for the Embankment of part of the River Thames on the South Side thereof, in the Parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, and for other Purposes.

This Act gives the Board power to construct an embankment on the south side of the River Thames, and other works in connection therewith; and the Board are authorised to borrow money to the extent of 480,000 *l.* for the purposes of this Act.

---

27 & 28 Vict. c. 135.

This is an Act to enable the Metropolitan Board of Works to purchase additional Lands and to make further Improvements in the Parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, in the County of Surrey, for the Purposes of "The Thames Embankment Act, 1863." 30th June 1864.

Under this Act the Board are empowered to take additional lands for the purposes of "The Thames Embankment Act, 1863."

Cap. 61.

This is an Act for empowering the Commissioners of the Treasury to guarantee, and the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to advance the sums authorised to be borrowed for the Embankment of the Thames and Improvement of the Metropolis, and for other Purposes connected therewith. 25th July 1864.

Under this Act the Board are empowered to borrow sums on behalf of the Thames Embankment and Metropolis Improvement Fund, and for other purposes connected therewith, under the guarantee of Her Majesty's Treasury.

---

20 & 21 Vict. c. 115.

This is an Act to enable the Metropolitan Board of Works to open certain new Streets in the City and Liberties of Westminster and in the Borough of Southwark. 10th August 1857.

This Act enables the Board to make a new street in the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, also a new street in the parish of St. Saviour's,

App. No. 7.

Southwark. Board authorised to raise on the credit of London Bridge Approaches Fund the sum of 35,000 *l.*, and to raise 89,100 *l.* on Exchequer Bills; also to raise money by way of annuities for the purposes of this Act.

Cap. 38.

This is an Act to authorise the Metropolitan Board of Works to form an improved Communication between Limehouse and the Victoria Park, in the County of Middlesex, and for other Purposes. 14th June 1858.

By this Act the Board was authorised to form a new street from the East India Dock-road, where it intersects Commercial-road East, passing in a north-westerly direction over Limehouse Cut, and terminating at Saville-place in the Bow-road. Powers were given to take land compulsorily; to grant building leases of ground not required for street, or to sell the ground.

The expenses of the Board incurred in carrying the Act into execution to be included in the expenses authorised to be defrayed by the Board under the Metropolis Local Management Act, 1855.

Power for the Board to raise money by borrowing or mortgaging the rates to be raised under the Metropolis Local Management Acts.

Cap. 45.

This is an Act for making a new Street from Blackfriars to the Mansion House, in the City of London, in connection with the Embankment of the River Thames on the northern side of that river, and for other Purposes. 13th July 1863.

By this Act the Board was empowered to make a street from New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, to the Mansion House, in the City.

Power is given to make subways.

Street when completed to be under the care of the Commissioners of Sewers.

Compulsory power to take lands.

Power to lease and sell land not required.

The powers of borrowing vested in the Board under the Embankment Act of 1862.

Cap. 3.

This is an Act, to enable the Metropolitan Board of Works to open a new Street in Whitechapel, and to remove Middle-row, all in the County of Middlesex. 7th April 1865.

By this Act the Board was empowered to make a new street, commencing in High-street, Whitechapel, where it is intersected by Leman-street and Commercial-street, and terminating at the west end of Commercial-road East.

Powers are given to make subways, for compulsory purchase of lands, to grant leases of superfluous lands, and to sell same. To raise money or mortgage rates, which may be raised under the Metropolis Management Acts, for the purposes of the Act.

Cap. 150.

This is an Act to enable the Metropolitan Board of Works to make Improvements in the Parish of St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, in the County of Middlesex, by widening High-street and King-street, and forming new Lines of Streets connected therewith, and for other Purposes. 28th June 1866.

By this Act the Board was empowered to widen High-street, Kensington, from Young-street to King-street; to make a new street in substitution of King-street, and to widen the remaining portion of King-street; and to make a new street from Young-street to the new street in substitution of part of King-street.

Powers to lease and sell surplus land.

Powers to raise money for the purposes of the Act, or mortgage the rates which may be raised under the Metropolis Management Acts.

Cap. 122.

This is an Act to amend the Laws relating to the construction of Buildings in the Metropolis and its Neighbourhood. 14th August 1855.

By this Act the Board are entrusted with the regulation and supervision of buildings in the Metropolis, the surveying of dangerous structures, party structures; and provision is made for the payment of expenses by owners, &c.

Cap. 52.

This is an Act to alter and amend "The Metropolitan Building Act, 1855." 23rd July 1860.

By this Act the rules in the Act of 1865, as to the cubical dimensions of buildings used for the purposes of trade, were not to be applied to buildings used wholly for the manufacture of machinery and boilers of steam-vessels beyond the distance of three miles from St. Paul's, and the Act specifies the mode of construction of such buildings.

Cap. 87.

This is an Act to amend "The Metropolitan Building Act, 1855." 6th August 1861.

By this Act any buildings erected, or to be erected, by the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, were excepted from the operation of the Building Acts.

Cap. 150.

This is an Act to enable the Metropolitan Board of Works to form a Park for the Northern Suburbs of the Metropolis, to be called Finsbury Park. 17th August 1857.

By this Act the Board were empowered to provide a park in the parishes of St. Mary, Islington, and Hornsey, with power to take land compulsorily. To make bye-laws. The expenses of the park were to be included in the expenses authorised to be defrayed in the manner provided by "The Metropolis Local Management Act, 1855." Powers were given to sell land not wanted; to borrow money, and issue bonds, and mortgage moneys to be raised by the Metropolis Management Act of 1855.

Cap. 4.

An Act to enable the Metropolitan Board of Works to provide a Public Park for the South-eastern Districts of the Metropolis, to be called Southwark Park. 28th April 1864.

By this Act the Board is empowered to form a park, to be called Southwark Park, in the parish of St. Mary, Rotherhithe; to lay out, plant, and enclose it, and build lodges and ornamental buildings therein; to appoint officers, and allow salaries, and make bye-laws.

The maintaining and keeping in order the park to be under the control of the Board.

The expenses of carrying the Act into execution to be included in the expenses authorised to be defrayed under the Metropolis Management Acts of 1855, 1856, and 1862.

Powers to sell or grant leases of land.

Power to raise money by bonds, or mortgage, or on annuities.

Cap. 15.

This is an Act for consolidating in one Act certain provisions usually contained in Acts authorising the making of Gas Works for supplying Towns with Gas. 23rd April 1847.

This Act does not directly affect the Board.

This Act is called "The Gas Works Clauses Act, 1847." It contains clauses for—

The laying of pipes in streets;

The supply of gas;

The guarding against nuisances from gas;

The amount of profits to be received by companies;

The recovery of damages and penalties; and

Provisions for the access to any special Act.

Cap. 66.

This is an Act for regulating Measures used in Sales of Gas. 13th August 1859.

This Act does not directly affect the Board.

It fixes the standard of measure for the sale of gas by meter.

Provides for the deposit of models of measures with the Comptroller General of the Exchequer; the appointment of inspectors by justices; officers of Exchequer to stamp copies of model meters to be tested under the Act by inspectors; fees for testing and stamping meters, and contains powers of appeal.

Cap. 146.

This is an Act to amend the Act for regulating Measures used in Sales of Gas. 28th August 1860.

This Act amends the Act of 1859, by deferring the time at which several of the provisions of that Act came into operation.

Cap. 125.

This is an Act for better regulating the Supply of Gas to the Metropolis. 28th August 1860.

This is the "Metropolis Gas Act, 1860."

The Gas Works Clauses Act of 1847 is incorporated with it.

The expression "local authority," includes the Metropolitan Board of Works.

The Gas Companies to light all public lamps in streets required by the local authority.

The quality of the gas and its illuminating power determined.

The local authority to appoint an examiner, and erect an experimental meter for testing. Examiner to report as to the illuminating power and purity of gas to the local authority.

The rights of the Board saved.

Cap. 79.

This is an Act to amend the Metropolis Gas Act. 6th August 1861.

This Act amended the Acts of 22 & 23 Vict. c. 66, and 23 & 24 Vict. c. 146 (being the Acts for regulating measures used in sales of gas), by transferring the powers conferred on justices to the Board, so far as respects the metropolis.

Cap. 66.

This is an Act for the Safe Keeping of Petroleum. 29th July 1862.

Under this Act the Board are the local authority for the metropolis (except the City of London).

Not more than 40 gallons of petroleum are to be kept within 50 yards of a dwelling-house or warehouse, without license from the local authority, under a penalty of 20 *l.* per day.

Applicant for license, upon refusal of local authority to grant it, may memorialise Secretary of State.

Power given to search for petroleum.

Cap. 69.

This is an Act for the amendment of the Law with respect to the Carriage and Deposit of Dangerous Goods. 6th August 1866.

Under this Act Her Majesty may, by Order in Council, declare that any goods named in such Order are to be deemed specially dangerous; and this Act for the safe keeping of petroleum, is extended to nitro-glycerine, and read as if nitro-glycerine had been mentioned in addition to petroleum.

Cap. 13.

An Act for the Protection of certain Garden or Ornamental Grounds in Cities and Boroughs. 4th May 1863.

Under this Act, gardens or ornamental grounds set apart for the use of the inhabitants, and neglected to be kept in proper order, or neglected from any other cause, may be taken charge of by the Board in the metropolis (except in the City of London), and encroachments removed, and shall cause such grounds to be vested in a committee of the rated inhabitants, to be kept as a garden or ornamental ground. Vestries and district Boards to raise sums for the maintenance and management thereof, by an addition to the general rate.

Inhabitants not accepting the undertaking, then the Board to vest same in vestry or district Board.

App. No. 7.

Charges incurred by the Board in the execution of the Act to be deemed to be expenses of the Board, provided for in the Local Management Act. Power to make bye-laws; Act not to extend to Crown property.

Cap. 78.

This is an Act to amend the Acts relating to the Turnpike Roads in the neighbourhood of the Metropolis north of the River Thames. 28th July 1863.

By this Act several roads in the northern parts of the Metropolis ceased to be managed by the Commissioners of the Turnpike Roads under the Act of 1826, and were made parish highways.

No provisions in the Act seem to affect the Act with the exception of the 18th section, which applies to the parish highways in the parish of St. Luke, Old-street, and restricts the erection of buildings, except with the consent of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

The Act to continue for 21 years.

Metropolitan Houseless Poor Act, 1864.
Cap. 116.

This is an Act to make provision for distributing the Charge of Relief of certain Classes of Poor Persons over the whole of the Metropolis. 29th July 1864.

By this Act the Guardians within the metropolis were empowered to make out a separate account of the money expended by them daily in the relief of destitute poor during the hours from eight at night till eight in the morning, which was to be reimbursed by the Board, on a certificate by an auditor, out of the funds in their possession raised under the Metropolis Local Management Act.

Cap. 34.

This is an Act to make the Metropolitan Houseless Poor Act perpetual. 2nd June 1865.

Cap. 322.

This is an Act for authorising the completion of an Inner Circle of Railways north of the Thames. 29th July 1864.

By this Act the Metropolitan District Railway was empowered to make certain railways from Brompton to Westminster Bridge, from Westminster Bridge to Cannon-street, and from Cannon-street to Fenchurch-street.

No deviation from the levels shown on the sections were to be made without the consent of the Board.

The Thames Embankment and road was to be formed opposite the City of London Gasworks and Whitefriars Dock, as best to suit the formation of the railway and the embankment and the convenience of the gasworks and dock.

The company are to execute all works in connection with the embankment and new street to the Mansion House under the superintendence and to the satisfaction of the Board's engineer.

The company to pay the Board in respect of the right to make the railway in connection with the embankment and street, 200,000 *l.* to cover any increased outlay and claims, and also pay a further sum for additional land to be taken for stations.

The referee for settling matters to be the Right Honourable Edward Henry Stanley.

Differences between the engineers of the Board and the company to be settled by an engineer appointed by Board of Trade.

The Board empowered to proceed with the embankment in the event of the company not being prepared to proceed simultaneously with their works.

The company, if requested by the Board, to construct the Low Level Sewer from Earl-street and Cannon-street to Trinity-square.

Provisions are inserted for protection of the sewers, and width and height of bridges over streets.

Cap. 121.

This is an Act to facilitate in certain cases the obtaining of Powers for the Construction of Railways. 29th July 1864.

There seems to be no provisions which affect the Board under this Act, although it is possible the Board might lodge objections against any scheme submitted to the Board of Trade under this Act for its approval. The Board is not referred to in the Act, but only railway and canal companies.

Cap. 178.

This is an Act to enable the Metropolitan District Railway Company to acquire additional Lands, and for other purposes relating to the Undertaking of the same Company. 16th July 1866.

The usual clauses of the Board are inserted in this Bill relating to sewers and bridges.

Cap 83.

This is an Act for further regulating the use of Locomotives on Turnpike and other Roads for Agricultural and other purposes. 5th July 1865.

Under this Act the Board, in respect of the Metropolis (except the City), may make orders as to the hours and speed that locomotives may pass through the place subject to their jurisdiction; the Board to make orders under their common seal, in pursuance of this section, and affix them in some public place within their jurisdiction, and advertise them in a newspaper circulated therein.

Cap 90.

This is an Act for the Establishment of a Fire Brigade within the Metropolis. 5th July 1865.

By this Act the duty of extinguishing fires and protecting life and property in case of fire in the metropolis, is intrusted to the Board, who are to provide a force of firemen, fire engines, horses, accoutrements, &c.; to acquire stations, stables, houses, &c.; telegraphic communication between stations; the plant and property of the fire engine establishment of the insurance companies to vest in the Board.

The chief officer and men of the brigade to be appointed by the Board, who shall pay their salaries, pensions, and allowances.

The Board may make bye-laws for regulating the training of the men and the maintenance of the efficiency

efficiency of the brigade; may make arrangements for establishing fire escapes.

Insurance companies are to contribute to expenses of carrying the Act into effect; also the Government; contributions by parishes not to exceed one half-penny in the pound in any year on the full annual value of property rateable to the relief of the poor in the parish.

Power of Board to borrow not exceeding 40,000 *l.* for purposes of Act.

Power to Board to discharge officers; to impose penalty where chimneys are on fire; to recover penalties under 11 & 12 Vict. c. 43.

Accounts of Board to be audited.

Power to the Board to allow the brigade to proceed beyond limits of metropolis; to extinguish fires, and in such case the owner and occupier of property where fire has occurred to be jointly liable to defray expenses of brigade's attendance.

Brigade to send every day notice of all fires to insurance offices.

Powers of local bodies respecting fire-plugs transferred to Board.

Cap. 121.

This is an Act for reclaiming from the Sea certain Lands on and near the Eastern and South Eastern coast of Essex; for making Conduits from the North London Main Discharging Sewers to the coast of Essex; for Utilising the Sewage of North London; and for other Purposes. 19th June 1865.

By this Act the Metropolis Sewage and Essex Reclamation Company were empowered to embank and reclaim certain marshes, mud-banks, sand-banks and waste lands, in the county of Essex, within 14 years from the passing of the Act, and to make conduits and culverts for fertilisation and irrigation of the reclaimed and other lands; the conduits to commence from the Northern Outfall Sewers of the Metropolitan Main Drainage at West Ham to the parish of Rawreth, in Essex; also the Dengie Conduit, the Foulness Conduit, and the Woolwich Branch Conduit; the works to be made and maintained at the expense of the Company, and to be approved by the engineer of the Board.

The conduits to be completed in 10 years.

Sewage not to be applied to irrigation of any land within two miles of the metropolis.

The agreement in the Schedule to the Act made between the Board and the Company is ratified and confirmed, except Article 15, which provided for the forfeiture of the concession on non-completion of the works within the period prescribed, which is annulled; but if the matters in Article 8, which relates to the mode of construction of the culverts were not completed in the manner defined in that Article, within the time prescribed, the concession should determine.

The money to be paid to the Board in respect of profits payable to the Board under the agreements, to belong to the Board, for the benefit of the ratepayers.

The Board to be saved harmless against all actions and suits.

The Board may enter into agreements with the company for the interception from the Thames, and carrying away by the company's conduits all or any of the sewage collected by the sewers of the Board on the north bank of the Thames.

Cap. 280.

This is an Act to authorise the Metropolis Sewage and Essex Reclamation Company to make a new Conduit in lieu of certain portions of their authorised Conduits, and for other Purposes. 30th July 1866.

By this Act the company were authorised to abandon the construction of a portion of one of the conduits authorised by the Act of 1865.

The rights of the Board, under the Act of 1865, were saved.

The Cattle Diseases Prevention Act, 1866.

Cap. 2.

This is an Act to amend the Law relating to Contagious or Infectious Diseases in Cattle, and other Animals. 20th February 1866.

The Board, under this Act, is the local authority for the Metropolis, for the purpose of making a rate; but for other purposes, in the City, the Court of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen are the local authority.

Power is given for the local authority to form a committee, and elect a chairman.

Local authority to appoint inspectors and officers to carry into effect provisions of Act; to cause animals affected to be slaughtered, and pay compensation, and cause animal to be buried and covered with disinfectant; to cause yard, stable, and other premises to be cleaned, and destroy dung and litter, &c. Expenses to be defrayed out of local rate to be levied to meet expenses.

---

29 & 30 Vict. Cap. 110.

This is an Act to amend the Cattle Diseases Prevention Act. 10th August 1866.

This Act amends the provisions of "The Cattle Diseases Act, 1866," and empowers the local authority to borrow money for the purposes of the Act when the sum levied shall exceed one shilling in the pound on rateable value.

Cap. 122.

This is an Act to make provision for the Improvement, Protection, and Management of Commons near the Metropolis. 10th August 1866.

The Board under this Act, being the local authority of any common in the Metropolis, may present a scheme for the improvement of a metropolitan common, on a memorial to the Inclosure Commissioners, and the Commissioners may make examination and enquiry in relation to the subject-matter of the memorial, and prepare draft of scheme respecting the common, and publish it, and receive objections or suggestions respecting it; the scheme to state what rights claimed by any person are affected. Scheme to be confirmed by Act of Parliament. Expenses of scheme to be defrayed by memorialists. Power for local authority to contribute for purposes of scheme. Expenses to be paid out of local rate.

Cap. 31.

This is an Act to provide for Superannuation Allowances to Officers of Vestries and other Boards within the Area of the Metropolis Local Management Act. 18th May 1866.

This Act enables the Metropolitan Board of Works, or vestry of any parish or district board of any district, or any other parochial body within the Metropolis, to grant superannuation allowances to their officers.

App. No. 7.

Metropolitan Board of Works.

Return, prepared pursuant to an Order of the Board of the 22nd February 1867, on the motion of Cyrus Legg, Esq., showing all Moneys owing at the Formation of the Board, and the Rates of Interest thereon; the Amounts Borrowed since, with the Dates, and Rates of Interest thereon, the Purposes for which they were intended, and the Security given for the same; the Amounts paid off, with the Dates of Payment, and the Amounts Owing by the Board on 1st January 1867.

(signed) *Edward Hughes*,
Accountant.

Office, Spring Gardens,
15 March 1867.

Moneys Owing at the Formation of the Board, viz., 1st January 1856.

Borrowed by the late Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers.

To whom Owing.	Amount.			Rate of Interest.
	£.	s.	d.	
Rock Life Assurance Company	228,800	–	–	4½ per cent.
Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation	20,000	–	–	4 „
George, J. N.	3,000	–	–	5 „
Robinson, M.	2,000	–	–	4 „
Hart, G. B. (Executors of)	1,000	–	–	4 „
Kershaw, B. D.	1,000	–	–	4 „
Kershaw, Rev. E. D.	1,000	–	–	4 „
Kershaw, S. (Executors of)	2,000	–	–	4 „
Meller, T. W. (ditto)	12,500	–	–	5 „
Hicks, J. (ditto)	5,000	–	–	5 „
Hobbs, J.	2,000	–	–	5 „
Hall, J. G.	1,500	–	–	5 „
Balcombe, H. (Trustees of)	1,500	–	–	5 „
Green, P.	1,000	–	–	5 „
Peache, J. C.	10,000	–	–	5 „
Clergy Mutual Assurance Society	133,000	–	–	4½ „
£.	425,300	–	–	

Note.—All the above Loans have been repaid, with the exception of the last-mentioned, of which the sum of £. 49,000 has been paid off, leaving a balance of £. 84,000 still outstanding.

AMOUNTS Borrowed by the Board since its Formation, with the Dates, and Rates of Interest thereon; the Purposes for which they were intended, and the Security given for the same; the Amounts paid off, with the Dates of Payment; and the Amounts owing by the Board on the 1st January 1867.

Of whom Borrowed.	Amount Borrowed.	Dates.	Rates of Interest.	Purposes for which intended.	Security given.	Amounts Paid off.	Dates of Payment.	Sums Outstanding.
	£.					£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Clergy Mutual Assurance Society.	42,000	Nov. 1858 -	4 per Cent.	Victoria Park Approach -	General Rates - -	18,200 – –	Nov. 1864 to Nov. 1866.	23,800 – –
Bank of England - -	400,000	June 1858 to Sept. 1859.	4½ „ -	Covent Garden Approach and Southwark and Westminster Communication -	Ditto - - -	100,000 – –	June to Sept. 1865.	300,000 – –
Bank of England (* part of 4,200,000 *l.*)	* 3,800,000	May 1859 to Oct. 1866.	3¾ „ -	Main Drainage - - -	Main Drainage Rates and Guarantee by Her Majesty's Government.	870,000 – –	Aug. 1859 to July 1866.	2,930,000 – –
Clergy Mutual Assurance Society.	50,000	Feb. 1864 -	4½ „ -	Finsbury Park - - -	General Rates - -	3,333 6 8	Feb. 1865 to Feb. 1866.	46,666 13 4
Bank of England - -	135,000	Dec. 1864 -	4½ „ -	Repayment of Rock Loan -	- Ditto - - -	27,000 – –	Dec. 1865 to Dec. 1866.	108,000 – –
Bank of England († part of 616,000 *l.*)	† 550,000	Dec. 1865 to Jan. 1867.	4½ „ -	80,000 *l.* Southwark Park, 109,000 *l.* Whitechapel Improvement, 61,000 *l.* Holborn Improvement, 300,000 *l.* Main Sewers.	- Ditto - - -	3,533 6 8	Dec. 1866 -	546,466 13 4
National Debt Commissioners	800,000	July 1865 to March 1866.	3¾ „ -	Thames Embankment and Mansion House-street.	Coal and Wine Duties	235,000 – –	Feb. 1866 to Jan. 1867.	565,000 – –
Bank of England - -	1,000,000	April to Dec. 1866.	3¾ „ -	- Ditto - - ditto - -	- Ditto - - -	- - -	- - -	1,000,000 – –
£.	6,777,000					1,257,066 13 4		5,519,933 6 8

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS. - - - - -

RETURN showing the RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUE on the 1st January 1856 of the PROPERTY in the City Assessed the City of London and Parishes; also showing the Rateable Annual Value on the 1st January in eac RATE, but not yet approved by the Board.

Number.	PARISHES, DISTRICTS, AND PARTS.	1856.	1857.		1858.		1859.		1860.		1861.	
		Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1856.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1857.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1858.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1859.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increa sinc 186
		£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
1	City of London - - - -	1,203,466	1,210,491	7,025	1,256,050	45,559	1,269,118	13,068	1,280,681	11,563	1,279,887	*D.* 7
2	St. Marylebone - - -	999,372	999,372	–	976,820	*D.*22,552	976,820	–	976,820	–	976,820	–
3	St. Pancras - - - -	706,384	706,384	–	800,640	94,256	800,640	–	800,640	–	800,640	–
4	Lambeth - - - - -	490,255	490,255	–	490,255	–	490,255	–	490,255	–	637,000	146,7
5	St. George, Hanover-square -	893,976	893,976	–	943,696	49,720	943,696	–	943,696	–	943,696	–
6	St. Mary, Islington - - -	437,000	437,000	–	548,572	111,572	548,572	–	548,572	–	548,572	–
7	St. Leonard, Shoreditch - -	251,548	251,548	–	265,772	14,224	265,772	–	265,772	–	265,772	–
8	Paddington - - - -	430,000	430,000	–	526,420	96,420	526,420	–	526,420	–	526,420	–
9	St. Matthew, Bethnal Green -	104,420	104,420	–	130,320	25,900	130,320	–	130,320	–	130,320	–
10	St. Mary, Newington, Surrey -	190,000	190,000	–	190,000	–	190,000	–	190,000	–	240,000	50,0
11	Camberwell - - - -	210,000	210,000	–	210,000	–	210,000	–	210,000	–	250,000	40,0
12	St. James, Westminster - -	411,396	411,396	–	431,500	20,104	431,500	–	431,500	–	431,500	–
13	St. James and St. John, Clerkenwell.	215,168	215,168	–	221,372	6,204	221,372	–	221,372	–	221,372	–
14	Chelsea - - - - -	216,692	216,692	–	234,248	17,556	234,248	–	234,248	–	234,248	–
15	St. Mary Abbot, Kensington -	242,284	242,284	–	319,924	77,640	319,924	–	319,924	–	319,924	–
16	St. Luke, Middlesex - - -	163,300	163,300	–	171,564	8,264	171,564	–	171,564	–	171,564	–
17	St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark	124,660	124,660	–	124,660	–	124,660	–	124,660	–	146,000	21,3
18	Bermondsey - - - - -	131,660	131,660	–	131,660	–	131,660	–	131,660	–	150,000	18,3
19	St. George-in-the-East - -	166,001	166,139	138	170,292	4,153	170,292	–	170,292	–	170,274	*D.*
20	St. Martin-in-the-Fields - -	250,000	250,000	–	258,708	8,708	258,708	–	258,708	–	258,708	–
21	Hamlet of Mile End Old Town -	150,348	150,348	–	162,388	12,040	162,388	–	162,388	–	162,388	–
22	Woolwich - - - - -	93,000	93,000	–	83,000	*D.*10,000	83,000	–	83,000	–	83,000	–
23	Rotherhithe - - - - -	64,000	64,000	–	64,000	–	64,000	–	64,000	–	83,500	19,5
24	St. John, Hampstead - -	77,024	77,024	–	104,156	27,132	104,156	–	104,156	–	104,156	–
		8,221,954	8,229,117	7,163	8,816,017	586,900	8,829,085	13,068	8,840,648	11,563	9,135,761	295,1
	WHITECHAPEL DISTRICT:											
25	St. Mary, Whitechapel - -	107,823	107,932	104	111,699	3,767	111,699	–	111,839	140	111,866	
26	Christchurch, Spitalfields - -	35,068	35,068	–	37,876	2,808	37,876	–	37,876	–	37,876	–
27	St. Botolph without Aldgate -	46,179	46,189	10	50,890	4,701	50,890	–	50,890	–	50,920	
28	Holy Trinity, Minories - -	5,962	5,948	*D.* 14	5,836	*D.* 112	5,836	–	5,836	–	6,089	2
29	Precinct of St. Katherine - -	16,000	16,000	–	17,328	1,328	17,328	–	17,328	–	17,328	–
30	Hamlet of Mile End New Town	14,160	14,160	–	13,132	*D.* 1,028	13,132	–	13,132	–	13,132	–
31	Liberty of Norton Folgate -	7,752	7,752	–	8,108	356	8,108	–	8,108	–	8,108	–
32	Old Artillery Ground - -	4,016	4,002	*D.* 14	4,022	20	4,022	–	4,096	74	4,059	*D.*
33	District of the Tower - -	2,732	2,783	51	2,964	181	2,964	–	2,859	*D.* 105	2,799	*D.*
		239,697	239,834	137	251,855	12,021	251,855	–	251,964	109	252,177	21
	WESTMINSTER DISTRICT:											
34	St. Margaret - - - - St. John-the-Evangelist - -	255,000	255,000	–	274,500	19,500	274,500	–	274,500	–	274,500	–
	GREENWICH DISTRICT:											
35	St. Paul, Deptford, including Hatcham.	99,170	99,170	–	99,170	–	99,170	–	99,170	–	102,970	3,8
36	St. Nicholas, Deptford - -	20,000	20,000	–	20,000	–	20,000	–	20,000	–	20,000	–
37	Greenwich - - - - -	120,000	120,000	–	120,000	–	120,000	–	120,000	–	120,000	–
		239,170	239,170	–	239,170	–	239,170	–	239,170	–	242,970	3,8
	WANDSWORTH DISTRICT:											
38	Clapham - - - - -	82,500	82,500	–	82,500	–	82,500	–	82,500	–	107,000	24,5
39	Tooting Graveney - - -	9,819	9,819	–	9,819	–	9,819	–	9,819	–	9,800	*D.*
40	Streatham - - - - -	48,700	48,700	–	48,700	–	48,700	–	48,700	–	56,800	8,1
41	St. Mary, Battersea, excluding Penge.	79,100	79,100	–	79,100	–	79,100	–	79,100	–	83,800	4,7
42	Wandsworth - - - -	43,900	43,900	–	43,900	–	43,900	–	43,900	–	58,000	14,1
43	Putney, including Roehampton -	35,000	35,000	–	35,000	–	35,000	–	35,000	–	46,000	11,0
		299,019	299,019	–	299,019	–	299,019	–	299,019	–	361,400	62,3

Note.—The letter "*D*" denotes decrease in the Rental.

- - - - - - - METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

London and the several Parishes of the Metropolis within the Jurisdiction of the Board, upon which the Board succeeding Year, to which is added the RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUE now in preparation for the MAIN DRAINAGE

1862.		1863.		1864.		1865.		1866.		RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUE now in Preparation for the MAIN DRAINAGE RATE, but not yet approved by the Board.		TOTAL INCREASE from 1856 to present Time, inclusive.	
Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1861.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1862.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1863.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1864.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1865.	Amount, October 1866.	Increase since January 1866.	Amount.	Per Cent.
£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	
1,300,156	20,269	1,319,961	19,805	1,333,911	13,950	1,377,641	43,730	1,410,855	33,214	2,109,935	699,080	906,469	75·5
976,820	–	976,820	–	976,820	–	1,053,748	76,928	1,053,748	–	1,053,748	–	54,376	5·4
800,640	–	800,640	–	800,640	–	925,872	125,232	925,872	–	925,872	–	219,488	31·0
637,000	–	637,000	–	637,000	–	637,000	- -	637,000	–	637,000	–	146,745	29·9
943,696	–	943,696	–	943,696	–	1,076,272	132,576	1,076,272	–	1,076,722	–	182,296	20·3
548,572	–	548,572	–	548,572	–	777,632	229,060	777,632	–	777,632	–	340,632	77·9
265,772	–	265,772	–	265,772	–	386,044	120,272	386,044	–	386,044	–	134,496	53·4
526,420	–	526,420	–	526,420	–	758,344	231,924	758,344	–	758,344	–	328,344	76·3
130,320	–	130,320	–	130,320	–	192,116	61,796	192,116	–	192,116	–	87,696	83·9
240,000	–	240,000	–	240,000	–	240,000	- -	240,000	–	240,000	–	50,000	26·3
250,000	–	250,000	–	250,000	–	250,000	- -	250,000	–	250,000	–	40,000	19·0
431,500	–	431,500	–	431,500	–	462,032	30,532	462,032	–	462,032	–	50,636	12·3
221,372	–	221,372	–	221,372	–	242,524	21,152	242,524	–	242,254	–	27,356	12·7
234,248	–	234,248	–	234,248	–	299,868	65,620	299,868	–	299,868	–	83,176	38·3
319,924	–	319,924	–	319,924	–	501,132	181,208	501,132	–	501,132	–	258,848	106·8
171,564	–	171,564	–	171,564	–	186,452	14,888	186,452	–	186,452	–	23,152	14·1
146,000	–	146,000	–	146,000	–	146,000	- -	146,000	–	146,000	–	21,340	17·1
150,000	–	150,000	–	150,000	–	150,000	- -	150,000	–	150,000	–	18,340	13·9
170,274	–	170,479	205	170,479	–	196,735	26,256	196,917	182	196,917	–	30,916	18·6
258,708	–	258,708	–	258,708	–	265,336	6,628	265,336	–	265,336	–	15,336	6·1
162,388	–	162,388	–	162,388	–	191,056	28,668	191,056	–	191,056	–	40,708	26·9
83,000	–	83,000	–	83,000	–	83,000	- -	83,000	–	83,000	–	*D.* 10,000	10·7
83,500	–	83,500	–	83,500	–	83,500	- -	83,500	–	83,500	–	19,500	30·4
104,156	–	104,156	–	104,156	–	147,624	43,468	147,624	–	147,624	–	70,600	91·6
9,156,030	20,269	9,176,040	20,010	9,189,990	13,950	10,629,928	1,439,938	10,663,324	33,396	11,362,404	699,080	3,140,450	38·1
111,866	–	112,005	139	112,005	–	127,229	15,224	127,385	156	127,385	–	19,557	18·1
37,876	–	37,876	–	37,876	–	47,636	9,760	47,636	–	47,636	–	12,568	35·8
50,920	–	50,920	–	50,920	–	44,920	*D.* 6,000	44,920	–	44,920	–	*D.* 1,259	2·7
6,089	–	6,089	–	6,667	578	6,667	- -	6,667	–	6,667	–	705	11·8
17,328	–	17,328	–	17,328	–	17,272	*D.* 56	17,272	–	17,272	–	1,272	7·9
13,132	–	13,132	–	13,132	–	15,660	2,528	15,660	–	15,660	–	1,500	10·5
8,108	–	8,108	–	8,108	–	8,952	844	8,952	–	8,952	–	1,200	15·4
4,059	–	4,283	224	4,413	130	4,413	- -	4,670	257	4,670	–	654	16·2
2,799	–	2,928	129	2,962	34	2,962	- -	3,368	406	3,368	–	636	23·2
252,177	–	252,669	492	253,411	742	275,711	22,300	276,530	819	276,530	–	56,892	15·5
274,500	–	274,500	–	274,500	–	339,660	65,160	339,660	–	339,660	–	84,960	33·1
115,000	12,030	115,000	–	115,000	–	115,000	- -	127,736	12,736	127,736	–	28,566	28·8
20,000	–	20,000	–	20,000	–	20,000	- -	16,000	*D.*4,000	16,000	–	*D.* 4,000	20·0
125,300	5,300	125,300	–	125,300	–	125,300	- -	125,300	–	131,240	5,940	11,240	9·3
260,300	17,330	260,300	–	260,300	–	260,300	- -	269,036	8,736	274,976	5,940	35,806	14·9
107,000	–	107,000	–	107,000	–	107,000	- -	107,000	–	107,000	–	24,500	29·6
9,800	–	9,800	–	9,800	–	9,800	- -	9,800	–	9,800	–	*D.* 19	0·0
56,800	–	56,800	–	56,800	–	56,800	- -	56,800	–	56,800	–	8,100	16·6
83,800	–	83,800	–	83,800	–	83,800	- -	83,800	–	83,800	–	4,700	5·0
58,000	–	58,000	–	58,000	–	58,000	- -	58,000	–	58,000	–	14,100	32·1
46,000	–	46,000	–	46,000	–	46,000	- -	46,000	–	46,000	–	11,000	31·4
361,400	–	361,400	–	361,400	–	361,400	- -	361,400	–	361,400	–	62,381	20·8

RETURN showing the Rateable Annual Value on the 1st January 1856 of the Property in the City of

Number.	PARISHES, DISTRICTS, AND PARTS.	1856. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	1857. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1856.	1858. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1857.	1859. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1858.	1860. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1859.	1861. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1860.
	HACKNEY DISTRICT:	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
44	Hackney	231,892	231,892	–	253,084	21,192	253,084	–	253,084	–	253,084	–
45	St. Mary, Stoke Newington	26,812	26,812	–	41,356	14,544	41,356	–	41,356	–	41,356	–
		258,704	258,704	–	294,440	35,736	294,440	–	294,440	–	294,440	–
	ST. GILES DISTRICT.											
46	St. Giles-in-the-Fields St. George, Bloomsbury	262,272	262,272	–	261,696	D. 576	261,696	–	261,696	–	261,696	–
	HOLBORN DISTRICT:											
47	St. Andrew, Holborn, above Bars St. George-the-Martyr	132,000	132,000	–	126,212	D.5,788	126,212	–	126,212	–	126,212	–
48	St. Sepulchre, Middlesex	17,748	17,748	–	16,324	D.1,424	16,324	–	16,324	–	16,324	–
49	Saffron Hill, &c. (part of)	27,869	27,869	–	25,129	D.2,740	25,129	–	25,129	–	25,129	–
50	Liberty of Glasshouse Yard (part of).	3,642	3,642	–	3,978	336	3,978	–	3,978	–	3,978	–
		181,259	181,259	–	171,643	D.9,616	171,643	–	171,643	–	171,643	–
	STRAND DISTRICT:											
51	St. Anne, Soho	90,672	90,672	–	90,648	D. 24	90,648	–	90,648	–	90,648	–
52	St. Paul, Covent Garden	43,416	43,416	–	42,472	D. 944	42,472	–	42,472	–	42,472	–
53	Precinct of the Savoy	8,560	8,560	–	8,680	120	8,680	–	8,680	–	8,680	–
54	St. Mary-le-Strand	14,860	14,860	–	19,332	4,472	19,332	–	19,332	–	19,332	–
55	St. Clement Danes	84,940	84,940	–	90,784	5,844	90,784	–	90,784	–	90,784	–
56	Liberty of the Rolls	16,076	16,076	–	16,432	356	16,432	–	16,432	–	16,432	–
		258,524	258,524	–	268,348	9,824	268,348	–	268,348	–	268,348	–
	FULHAM DISTRICT:											
57	St. Peter and St. Paul, Hammersmith.	67,500	67,500	–	77,804	10,304	77,804	–	77,804	–	77,804	–
58	Fulham	47,492	47,492	–	55,916	8,424	55,916	–	55,916	–	55,916	–
		114,992	114,992	–	133,720	18,728	133,720	–	133,720	–	133,720	–
	LIMEHOUSE DISTRICT:											
59	St. Anne, Limehouse	55,476	55,476	–	67,024	11,548	67,024	–	67,024	–	67,024	–
60	St. John, Wapping	35,344	35,250	D. 94	34,232	D.1,018	35,489	1,257	35,349	D. 140	35,349	–
61	St. Paul, Shadwell	30,808	30,808	–	30,936	128	30,936	–	30,936	–	30,936	–
62	Hamlet of Ratcliff	43,872	43,872	–	44,740	868	44,740	–	44,740	–	44,740	–
		165,500	165,406	D. 94	176,932	11,526	178,189	1,257	178,049	D. 140	178,049	–
	POPLAR DISTRICT:											
63	All Saints, Poplar	154,924	154,924	–	184,548	29,624	184,548	–	184,548	–	184,548	–
64	St. Mary, Stratford-le-Bow	27,064	27,064	–	30,744	3,680	30,744	–	30,744	–	30,744	–
65	St. Leonard, Bromley	36,268	36,268	–	57,212	20,944	57,212	–	57,212	–	57,212	–
		218,256	218,256	–	272,504	54,248	272,504	–	272,504	–	272,504	–

Note.—The letter "*D*" denotes decrease in the Rental.

London and the several Parishes of the Metropolis within the Jurisdiction of the Board, &c.—*continued.*

1862.		1863.		1864.		1865.		1866.		RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUE now in Preparation for the MAIN DRAINAGE RATE, but not yet approved by the Board.		TOTAL INCREASE from 1856 to present Time, inclusive.		Number.
Annual Value Property as per County Rate or e Basis.	Increase since 1861.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1862.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1863.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1864.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1865.	Amount, October 1866.	Increase since January 1866.	Amount.	Per Cent.	
£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.		
253,084	–	253,084	–	253,084	–	323,192	70,108	323,192	–	323,192	–	91,300	39·3	44
41,356	–	41,356	–	41,356	–	47,424	6,068	47,424	–	47,424	–	20,612	76·8	45
294,440	–	294,440	–	294,440	–	370,616	76,176	370,616	–	370,616	–	111,912	43·2	
261,696	–	261,696	–	261,696	–	277,412	15,716	277,412	–	277,412	–	15,140	5·7	46
26,212	–	126,212	–	126,212	–	141,280	15,068	141,280	–	141,280	–	9,280	7·0	47
16,324	–	16,324	–	16,324	–	17,488	1,164	17,488	–	17,488	–	*D.* 260	1·4	48
25,129	–	25,129	–	25,129	–	31,697	6,568	31,697	–	31,697	–	3,828	13·7	49
3,978	–	3,978	–	3,978	–	4,154	176	4,154	–	4,154	–	512	14·0	50
171,643	–	171,643	–	171,643	–	194,619	22,976	194,619	–	194,619	–	13,360	7·3	
90,648	–	90,648	–	90,648	–	96,236	5,588	96,236	–	96,236	–	5,564	6·1	51
42,472	–	42,472	–	42,472	–	49,020	6,548	49,020	–	49,020	–	5,604	12·9	52
8,680	–	8,680	–	8,680	–	9,112	432	9,112	–	9,112	–	552	6·4	53
19,332	–	19,332	–	19,332	–	17,956	*D.* 1,376	17,956	–	17,956	–	3,096	20·8	54
90,784	–	90,784	–	90,784	–	95,676	4,892	95,676	–	95,676	–	10,736	12·6	55
16,432	–	16,432	–	16,432	–	18,808	2,376	18,808	–	18,808	–	2,732	16·0	56
268,348	–	268,348	–	268,348	–	286,808	18,460	286,808	–	286,808	–	28,264	10·9	
77,804	–	77,804	–	77,804	–	104,928	27,124	104,928	–	104,928	–	37,428	55·4	57
55,916	–	55,916	–	55,916	–	66,948	11,032	66,948	–	66,948	–	19,456	40·9	58
133,720	–	133,720	–	133,720	–	171,876	38,156	171,876	–	171,876	–	56,884	49·4	
67,024	–	67,024	–	67,024	–	87,844	20,820	87,844	–	87,844	–	32,308	58·3	59
35,349	–	34,963	*D.* 386	34,963	–	42,331	7,368	42,556	225	42,556	–	7,212	20·4	60
[illegible]	–	[illegible]	–	[illegible]	–	42,648	11,712	42,648	–	42,648	–	11,840	38·4	61
44,740	–	44,740	–	44,740	–	61,560	16,820	61,560	–	61,560	–	17,638	40·5	62
[illegible]	–	177,663	*D.* 386	177,668	–	234,383	56,720	234,608	225	234,608	–	69,108	41·7	
184,548	–	184,548	–	184,548	–	212,112	27,564	212,112	–	212,112	–	57,188	36·8	63
30,744	–	30,744	–	30,744	–	48,796	18,052	48,796	–	48,796	–	21,732	80·3	64
57,212	–	57,212	–	57,212	–	83,412	26,200	83,412	–	83,412	–	47,144	129·0	65
272,504	–	272,504	–	272,504	–	344,320	71,816	344,320	–	344,320	–	126,064	57·7	

RETURN showing the Rateable Annual Value on the 1st January 1856 of the Property in the City of

Number.	PARISHES, DISTRICTS, AND PARTS.	1856. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	1857. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	1857. Increase since 1856.	1858. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	1858. Increase since 1857.	1859. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	1859. Increase since 1858.	1860. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	1860. Increase since 1859.	1861. Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	1861. Increase since 1860.
	ST. SAVIOUR'S DISTRICT:	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
66	Christchurch	63,500	63,500	–	63,500	–	63,500	–	63,500	–	63,000	*D.* 500
67	St. Saviour (including Liberty of Clink).	97,500	97,500	–	97,500	–	97,500	–	97,500	–	101,000	3,500
		161,000	161,000	–	161,000	–	161,000	–	161,000	–	164,000	3,000
	PLUMSTEAD DISTRICT:											
68	Charlton next Woolwich	29,500	29,500	–	29,500	–	29,500	–	29,500	–	29,500	–
69	Plumstead	28,430	28,430	–	28,430	–	28,430	–	28,430	–	28,430	–
70	Eltham	14,900	14,900	–	14,900	–	14,900	–	14,900	–	14,900	–
71	Lee	23,500	23,500	–	23,500	–	23,500	–	23,500	–	23,500	–
72	Kidbrooke	8,600	8,600	–	8,600	–	8,600	–	8,600	–	8,600	–
		104,930	104,930	–	104,930	–	104,930	–	104,930	–	104,930	–
	LEWISHAM DISTRICT:											
73	Lewisham (including Sydenham Chapelry).	108,800	108,800	–	108,800	–	108,800	–	108,800	–	108,800	–
74	Hamlet of Penge	29,300	29,300	–	29,300	–	29,300	–	29,300	–	43,800	14,500
		138,100	138,100	–	138,100	–	138,100	–	138,100	–	152,600	14,500
	ST. OLAVE DISTRICT:											
75	St. Olave	50,740	50,740	–	50,740	–	50,740	–	50,740	–	58,000	7,260
76	St. Thomas, Southwark	4,506	4,506	–	4,506	–	4,506	–	4,506	–	4,700	194
77	St. John, Horselydown	41,500	41,500	–	41,500	–	41,500	–	41,500	–	48,000	6,500
		96,746	96,746	–	96,746	–	96,746	–	96,746	–	110,700	13,954
	EXTRA-PAROCHIAL PLACES:											
78	The Charter House	1,948	1,948	–	1,948	–	1,948	–	1,948	–	1,948	–
79	Gray's Inn	13,500	13,500	–	12,676	*D.* 824	12,676	–	12,676	–	12,676	–
80	The Close of the Collegiate Church of St. Peter.	1,061	1,061	–	1,420	359	1,420	–	1,420	–	1,420	–
81	Inner Temple	19,751	19,751	–	19,751	–	19,751	–	20,198	447	20,198	–
82	Middle Temple	13,000	13,000	–	13,000	–	13,000	–	13,000	–	13,000	–
83	Lincoln's Inn	13,880	13,880	–	16,420	2,540	16,420	–	16,420	–	16,420	–
84	Staple Inn	1,800	1,800	–	2,152	352	2,152	–	2,152	–	2,152	–
85	Furnival's Inn	3,600	3,600	–	3,164	*D.* 436	3,164	–	3,164	–	3,164	–
		68,540	68,540	–	70,531	1,991	70,531	–	70,978	447	70,978	–
	TOTAL	11,283,663	11,290,869	7,206	12,031,151	740,282	12,045,476	14,325	12,057,455	11,979	12,450,410	392,955

N.B.—The above Rentals are not strictly within the wording of the Resolution, inasmuch as the Board did not make its assessment, for the first few years, until some time after the 1st January; the Rentals given are those upon which the Board made its assessment for each of the years.

Note.—The letter "*D*" denotes decrease in the Rental.

Spring Gardens, 19 October 1866.

London and the several Parishes of the Metropolis within the Jurisdiction of the Board, &c.—*continued.*

1862.		1863.		1864.		1865.		1866.		RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUE now in Preparation for the MAIN DRAINAGE RATE, but not yet approved by the Board.		TOTAL INCREASE from 1856 to present Time, inclusive.		Number.
Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1861.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1862.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis,	Increase since 1863.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1864.	Annual Value of Property as per County Rate or like Basis.	Increase since 1865.	Amount, October 1866.	Increase since January 1866.	Amount.	Per Cent.	
£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£	£.		
63,000	–	63,000	–	63,000	–	63,000	–	63,000	–	63,000	–	*D.* 500	0·7	66
101,000	–	101,000	–	101,000	–	101,000	–	101,000	–	101,000	–	3,500	3·5	67
164,000	–	164,000	–	164,000	–	164,000	–	164,000	–	164,000	–	3,000	1·9	
35,000	5,500	35,000	–	35,000	–	35,000	–	42,358	7,358	44,740	2,382	15,240	51·6	68
28,430	–	43,700	15,270	43,700	–	43,700	–	51,250	7,550	54,290	3,040	25,860	90·9	69
14,900	–	16,000	1,100	16,000	–	16,000	–	18,287	2,287	20,220	1,933	5,320	35·7	70
23,500	–	38,930	15,430	38,930	–	38,930	–	49,705	10,775	52,390	2,685	28,890	122·9	71
8,600	–	8,600	–	8,600	–	8,600	–	11,646	3,046	12,210	564	3,610	41·9	72
110,430	5,500	142,230	31,800	142,230	–	142,230	–	173,246	31,016	183,850	10,604	78,920	75·2	
140,300	31,500	140,300	–	140,300	–	140,300	–	170,882	30,582	183,610	12,728	74,810	68·7	73
43,800	–	43,800	–	43,800	–	43,800	–	43,800	–	43,800	–	14,500	49·4	74
184,100	31,500	184,100	–	184,100	–	184,100	–	214,682	30,582	227,410	12,728	89,310	64·6	
47,000	*D.* 11,000	51,000	4,000	55,000	4,000	58,000	3,000	58,000	–	58,000	–	7,260	14·3	75
4,700	–	4,700	–	4,700	–	4,700	–	4,700	–	4,700	–	194	4·3	76
48,000	–	48,000	–	48,000	–	48,000	–	48,000	–	48,000	–	6,500	15·6	77
99,700	*D.* 11,000	103,700	4,000	107,700	4,000	110,700	3,000	110,700	–	110,700	–	13,954	14·4	
1,948	–	1,948	–	1,948	–	1,948	–	1,948	–	1,948	–	–	–	78
12,676	–	12,676	–	12,676	–	12,652	*D.* 24	12,652	–	12,652	–	–	–	79
1,420	–	1,420	–	1,420	–	1,456	36	1,456	–	1,456	–	–	–	80
20,236	38	20,236	–	20,236	–	20,048	*D.* 188	19,993	*D.* 55	19,866	*D.* 127	3,038	4·4	81
13,000	–	13,000	–	13,000	–	13,000	–	13,000	–	13,000	–	–	–	82
16,420	–	16,420	–	16,420	–	17,244	824	17,244	–	17,244	–	–	–	83
2,152	–	2,152	–	2,152	–	2,248	96	2,248	–	2,248	–	–	–	84
3,164	–	3,164	–	3,164	–	3,164	–	3,164	–	3,164	–	–	–	85
71,016	38	71,016	–	71,016	–	71,760	744	71,705	*D.* 55	71,578	*D.* 127	3,038	4·4	
514,653	63,637	12,569,969	55,916	12,588,631	18,662	11,413,823	1,831,162	14,524,542	104,719	15,252,767	728,225	3,969,104	35·1	

Memo—New Rental now prepared - - - £. 15,252,767
Rental in 1856 - - - - - - 11,283,663

Increase since 1856 - - - - £. 3,969,104

Rate at 3 *d.* in the pound - - - £. 190,659 11 9
Ditto - - - - - - 141,045 15 9

£. 49,613 16 –

EDWARD HUGHES,
Accountant.

Appendix, No. 8.

PAPERS handed in by Dr. *Letheby*, 8 April 1867.

App. No. 8.

NUMBER of INSPECTIONS of HOUSES and of ORDERS issued for SANITARY IMPROVEMENT in the City of *London* in each of the last Eleven Years.

YEARS.	Houses Inspected.	Orders Issued.
1856	5,401	1,215
1857	5,924	2,031
1858	7,786	1,721
1859	9,587	1,984
1860	9,448	2,472
1861	9,425	2,518
1862	8,693	2,455
1863	9,089	2,443
1864	10,700	3,179
1865	11,008	2,331
1866	12,213	3,068

DEATHS from CHOLERA per 100 attacked during Epidemic of 1866.

East London Union	15·8
West London Union	25·0
East and West Unions	16·3
Cholera Ward, Bishopsgate	28·1
London Hospital	54·9
Cholera Hospital, Whitechapel	49·4
Epidemic of 1854 (England)	45·2

The TOTAL NUMBER of DEATHS in the CITY in the Years 1849 to 1856, with the proportion of Alvine Disorders.

YEARS.	Total Number of Deaths.	Deaths from Alvine Disorders.	Ratio per 1,000 of all the Deaths.	Ratio per 10,000 of Population.
1849	3,763	825		
1850	2,752	54		
1851	2,978	23		
1852	3,064	37	64·2	93·5
1853	3,040	43		
1854	3,335	233		
1855	3,400	88		
1856	2,910	34		
1857	2,904	38		
1858	2,883	38	14·2	20·0
1859	2,911	31		
1860	2,747	23		
1861	2,845	24		
1862	2,726	15		
1863	2,870	22		
1864	2,900	20	12·5	18·1
1865	2,673	18		
1866	2,544	109		

App. No. 8.

PROPORTIONS of DEATHS from CHOLERA in *London* and other Cities and Towns of *Europe*.

Years.	Cities.	Population.	Deaths from Cholera.	Ratio per 10,000 of Population.
1849	London City and Liberties	130,000	728	56·0
1854	„ „	126,060	211	16·7
1866	„ „	114,472	93	8·1
„	Metropolis	3,037,991	5,548	18·2
„	„ Eastern Districts	607,945	3,969	65·3
„	„ Central	359,219	329	9·2
„	Liverpool	484,373	1,754	36·2
1865	Paris	1,696,141	6,653	39·2
1866	Vienna	560,000	2,875	51·3
„	Naples	446,931	2,301	51·5
„	Amsterdam	262,691	1,104	42·0
„	Amsterdam, with other Dutch Towns.	826,464	8,872	107·3
„	Brussels	184,932	3,028	163·7
„	Brussels, with other Belgian Towns.	634,344	11,771	185·6

COMPARISON of DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the Population in City of *London* and elsewhere.

	1866.	Average of Ten Years.
East London Union	23·8	26·4
West London Union	26·8	28·2
City of London Union	18·2	21·3
Entire City	22·2	24·8
All London	26·2	24·0
Districts of Chief Towns	26·7	24·3
Country Districts	20·3	19·9
All England	23·4	22·2

DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of Population in following Towns and Cities of *England*, and *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, during the Summer Quarter of 1866.

City of London	22·88 per 1,000.
The whole of London	28·86 „
Borough of Birmingham	19·16 „
City of Bristol	20·75 „
Borough of Hull	22·35 „
City of Edinburgh	22·51 „
City of Dublin	23·83 „
Borough of Sheffield	24·04 „
City of Glasgow	25·18 „
Borough of Salford	26·31 „
City of Manchester	30·59 „
Borough of Leeds	31·02 „
Newcastle-on-Tyne	31·58 „
Borough of Liverpool	50·48 „
Average Annual Rate	29·22 „

Appendix, No. 9.

PAPER furnished by the Chairman.

App. No. 9.

Order of Poor Law Board.

To the Guardians of the Poor of the several Unions named in the Schedules hereunto annexed;
To the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes, Townships, and Places comprised in the said Union;
To the Clerk or Clerks to the Justices of the Petty Sessions held for the Division or Divisions in which the said Unions are respectively situate;
And to all others whom it may concern.

Whereas, by a General Order bearing date the twenty-fourth day of July one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, addressed to the several Unions mentioned in the Second Schedule hereunto annexed, and by divers subsequent orders addressed to the several Unions mentioned in the Third Schedule hereunto annexed, the dates whereof are therein set forth, the Poor Law Commissioners and the Poor Law Board respectively have made sundry rules and regulations as to the mode of conducting the election of guardians in such Unions; and it is expedient that certain alterations should be made in such rules and regulations.

Now therefore, we, the Poor Law Board, acting under the authority of the statutes in that behalf made and provided, hereby order, as regards the general election of guardians of such Unions in future, as follows:—

Article 1.—So much of the several orders as provides for the notice of election and the form of the voting paper shall be rescinded, and the notice shall be according to the form set forth in the First Schedule hereunto annexed, or to the like effect.

Article 2.—The form of voting paper to be used hereafter shall be according to the form in the said Schedule set forth.

Article 3.—No nomination paper delivered, except through the post, to the clerk or to any person appointed to receive the same, or at the office, address, or residence of such clerk or other person, before the hour of nine o'clock in the morning, or after the hour of eight o'clock in the evening, shall be valid.

Article 4.—As soon as practicable, after the receipt of the nomination papers the clerk shall make out two lists, containing the names and residence of the persons nominated for the several parishes in the Union, and shall cause one list to be suspended in the board-room of the guardians, and the other to be affixed to the principal external door of the workhouse of the Union, if any, and where there are several workhouses in the Union, of that which contains the board-room or is situated nearest to it.

Article 5.—If a greater number of candidates be nominated for any parish than the number of guardians required to be elected for it, the clerk shall, as soon as practicable, make out a list in writing of the candidates, and the names and addresses of the several nominators of them, and keep such list open in the board room of the guardians until the close of the election; and every person entitled to vote at the election for such parish may apply at such room during any day after the list shall have been made out, except when the Board of Guardians are holding their meeting therein, between the hours stated in Article 3, for an inspection of such list, and may copy the same, or any part thereof.

Article 6.—If any person nominated, or any person on his behalf, give at least one clear day's notice in writing, to the clerk before the delivery or collection of the voting papers, of an intention to send some agent to accompany each or any deliverer or collector of the voting papers, the clerk shall make suitable arrangements to enable such agent to accompany each person appointed to deliver or collect the papers accordingly.

Article 7.—The guardians shall provide, for the use of every person appointed to collect the voting papers, a box or bag having a small opening for the reception of the papers, which shall be delivered by the clerk to such person locked, and such person shall deposit every voting paper received by him, or allow the voter to deposit his own paper, in the box or bag through the opening, and shall deliver the box or bag to the clerk

clerk on the day of collecting the papers, and the clerk shall open the same at the casting up of the votes, and not before.

Article 8.—The clerk shall allow each candidate, or some person on his behalf, to be present at the casting up of the votes, and shall declare at the close of such casting up the number of votes allowed by him to every candidate, and shall, if he reject any voting paper, mark thereon the act of its rejection, and declare the ground of such rejection, if required to do so by any person whose voting paper shall be rejected.

Article 9.—The nomination and voting papers, when delivered by the clerk to the board of guardians, shall be open to the inspection of any person who may have nominated a candidate, or of any candidate at the election for which there was a contest, or to any person appointed in writing on behalf of such nominator or candidate, during the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon and six o'clock in the afternoon on any day except Sunday during the six calendar months next ensuing the first meeting of the board of guardians after the annual election.

Explanation of Terms.

Article 10.—Whenever in describing any person or party, matter or thing, the word importing the singular number or the masculine gender only is used in this order, the same shall be taken to include, and shall be applied to, several persons or parties as well as one person or party, and females as well as males, and several matters or things as well as one matter or thing, respectively, unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

Article 11. The term "clerk" shall signify the clerk or person acting as such in the conduct of the election; and the term "parish" shall include wards in those unions where parishes have been divided into wards for the election of guardians.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Form (A.)

NOTICE OF ELECTION.

Election of Guardians of the Poor for the year 186 .

_____ Union.

I, the undersigned, clerk to the guardians of the poor of the above-named union, with reference to the ensuing election of guardians of the poor for the several parishes in the said union, do hereby give notice as follows:—

1. The number of guardians of the poor to be elected for the parishes in the said union, is as follows:—

For the parish of	guardians.
For the parish of	guardians.
For the parish of	guardians.

2. Any person, not otherwise disqualified by law, who shall be rated to the poor-rate in any parish in the union, in respect of hereditaments of the annual rental of not less than pounds, is qualified to be nominated for the office of guardian at the said election by any person then qualified to vote.

3. Nominations of guardians must be made according to the form below, which is the form prescribed by the Poor Law Board. Such nominations must be sent, on or before the day of *March*, to me or to Mr. at for the parish of , or to Mr. , at for the parish of , who alone are authorised to receive the same. Nominations sent after that day, or sent to any other person, will be invalid; and so also if they be delivered at the address, office, or residence of the clerk or other persons above named, before the hour of nine o'clock in the morning, or after the hour of eight o'clock in the evening, unless sent through the post.

4. On the day of I shall cause a list of the names of the persons nominated as candidates for the several parishes, to be suspended in the board-room of the guardians, and to be affixed to the principal door of the workhouse, at _____.

5. If more than the above-mentioned number of guardians be nominated for any parish, I shall cause a list of the names and addresses of the nominators of the candidates to be made out, and to be kept in the board-room of the union, which list will be open to the

App. No. 9.

inspection of every person qualified to vote, on any day when the board of guardians are not holding their meeting, between the hours mentioned above. I shall also cause voting papers to be delivered, on the day of , at the address in such parish of each ratepayer, owner, and proxy qualified to vote; and on the day of I shall cause such voting papers to be collected.

6. On the day of I shall attend at the board-room of this union, at the hour of ; and I shall on that day, and, if necessary, the following days, proceed to ascertain the number of votes given for each candidate.

7. If any voter do not receive a voting paper, he may apply to me before the day of April for one; and if any voting paper be not collected, through the default of the collector, the voter, in person, may deliver it to me before noon, on the day of April.

8. Any person put in nomination for the office of guardian may, at any time during the proceedings in the election, tender to me, in writing, his refusal to serve the office, and the election, so far as regards that person, will be no further proceeded with.

Parish of _____. }
_____ Union. }

Form of Nomination Paper.

This day of 186 .

Names of Persons nominated to be Guardians.	Residence of the Persons nominated.	Quality or Calling of Persons nominated.

I, being* , duly qualified to vote in the parish aforesaid, nominate the above to be Guardian [*or* Guardians] for the said parish.

_____ Signature } of Nominator.
_____ Address }

**Note.*—Only one person is empowered to sign this paper, and after the word *being* he must insert (*a ratepayer*) or (*owner of property*), according to his qualification. One of these only words must be used.

Given under my hand, this day of 186 .

_____ Clerk to the said Guardians.

WARNING.—It is enacted by the statute 14 & 15 Vict. c. 105, s. 3, that, "If any person, pending or after the election of any guardian or guardians, shall wilfully, fraudulently, and with intent to affect the result of such election, commit any of the acts following; that is to say, fabricate in whole or in part, alter, deface, destroy, abstract, or purloin any nomination or voting paper used therein; or personate any person entitled to vote at such election; or falsely assume to act in the name or on the behalf of any person so entitled to vote; or interrupt the distribution or collection of the voting papers; or distribute or collect the same, under a false pretence of being lawfully authorised to do so," he will be liable to be sent to prison for three months, with hard labour.

FORM (B.)

Voting Paper for the Election of Guardians for the year 186 .

_____ UNION.

Voting paper for the Parish of .

No. of Voting Paper.	Name and Address of Voter.	Number of Votes.	
		As Owner.	As Ratepayer.

App. No. 9.

Directions to the Voters.

The voter is entitled to vote for guardian [*or* guardians], and no more.

The voter, if able to write, must himself write his initials against the name of every person for whom he votes, and must himself sign this paper. The name of a firm or partnership will be of no avail. The signature by a wife for her husband, whether in his name or her own, will be useless.

If the voter cannot write, he must affix his mark, but such mark must be attested, and the name of the voter filled in by a witness, and such witness must write the initials of the voter against the name of every person for whom the voter intends to vote.

If a proxy vote, he must in like manner write his own initials, sign his own name, and state in writing the name of the person for whom he is proxy; thus—*John Smith* for *Richard Williams.*

This paper must be carefully preserved by the voter, as no second paper will be given. When it is filled up, it must be kept ready for delivery to Mr. , who will call for the voting paper on the day of , between the hours of before noon, and of afternoon. No other person is authorised to receive the voting paper. The voter may deliver the paper open or sealed up in an envelope, and may himself deposit it in the box or bag used for the collection.

If the voting paper be not ready for the person appointed to collect it when called for, the vote will be lost. It will also be lost if more than name be returned in the list, with the initials of the voter placed against such name, or if the voting paper be not signed by the voter, or if the mark of the voter be not attested when attestation is required.

Initials of the Voter against the Name of the Person for whom the Vote is intended to be Given.	Names of the Persons Nominated as Guardians.	Residence of the Persons Nominated.	Quality or Calling of the Persons Nominated.	Opinion of the Clerk as to the Disqualification.

I vote for the persons in the above list, against whose names the initials are placed as above.

(*Place for signature of the voter*) _____

(*Place for the mark if the voter cannot write*) _____

Name of the voter who cannot write _____

Witness to the mark _____

Address of the witness _____

Place for signature where the voter votes by proxy. _____ *for* _____

Warning.—It is enacted by the Statute 14 & 15 Vict. c. 105, sect. 3, that—"If any person, pending or after the election of any guardian or guardians, shall wilfully, fraudulently, and with intent to affect the result of such election, commit any of the acts following; that is to say, fabricate in whole or in part, alter, deface, destroy, abstract, or purloin any nomination or voting paper used therein; or personate any person entitled to vote at such election; or falsely assume to act in the name or on the behalf of any person so entitled to vote; or interrupt the distribution or collection of the voting papers; or distribute or collect the same under a false pretence of being lawfully authorised to do so," he will be liable to be sent to prison for three months with hard labour.

App. No. 9.

EXTRACT FROM SECOND SCHEDULE.

Hackney.
Holborn.
London, City of.
London, East.
London, West.
Olave's, St.
Poplar.
Saviour's, St.
Stepney.
Wandsworth and Clapham.
Whitechapel.
And other places.

Given under our Hands and Seal of Office, this Fourteenth day of January, in the year One thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-seven.

Gathorne Hardy, President.
S. H. Walpole.
B. Disraeli.

L. S.

Ralph Earle, Secretary.

Appendix, No. 10.

PAPERS relating to METAGE handed in by the Agent of Messrs. *Millis Coventry, Edward Hales, J. B. Perks, Henry F. Tiarks* (of the Firm of Messrs. J. Henry Schröder & Co.), and *S. W. Keene.* App. No. 10.

COMPULSORY METAGE.

STATEMENT OF PETITIONERS AGAINST.

FIVE PETITIONS were presented to the House of Commons in 1866, in reference to the claim of the City of London to a compulsory Metage on "Corn, Grain, and Seeds" brought into the Port of London by water.

1. From merchants, millers, distillers, malsters, and corn factors, signed by the principal firms, to the number of - - - - - - -	143
2. From farmers and landholders in Essex, signed by - - - -	195
3. From farmers, &c., Kent - - -	140
4. From farmers, &c., Colchester (Essex)	39
5. From farmers, &c., Maldon (Essex)	65
	582

These petitions originated with the undersigned committee, appointed at a public meeting of gentlemen interested in the corn trade, held 17th November 1865.

A copy of the Resolutions passed at that meeting is annexed.

The circumstances as to the claim of the Corporation has been several times brought under the attention of Parliament.

Those circumstances may be shortly stated thus:—

A Select Committee in 1858, after hearing counsel for the Corporation, reported without dissent in favour of a Bill for the abolition of "metage," subject to provisions for making compensation to the meters then employed.

The Bill, which related also to a reform of the Corporation, was however not proceeded with.

In 1864 a Revenue Act was passed (the 27 Vict. c. 18), enacting that the duty on foreign grain, after the 1st September 1864, should be levied by "weight" instead of "measure," whereby, as matter of trade and practice, the "metage" was rendered obsolete and unnecessary.

Consequent upon this Act the Corporation (in 1864) introduced a Bill called "The Weighing of Grain (Port of London) Bill," to give the Corporation a power of "weighing" all grain brought into the port; and by this Bill they (the Corporation) proposed that the compulsory metage should be abolished, as had been proposed in the Bill of 1858.

The Bill of 1864 was sent by the House to a Select Committee, which, however, reported that its Preamble had not been proved to their satisfaction.

As most of the large vessels go into the docks, and the dock directors claim the right of discharging vessels, and doing the weighing of corn with their own men, and of course making charge for the same, and insist on that right, and make charges accordingly, the claim for compulsory metage by the Corporation, whether performed uselessly, or not performed at all, is in fact a double tax on the grain, &c. imported into London; and this "metage" not only causes an increased price to the consumer, but tends to divert the corn trade of London to other ports.

Notwithstanding the Report of the Select Committee of 1858 in favour of a Bill for the abolition of compulsory metage: notwithstanding the admission of the Corporation in the Bill of 1864, that such compulsory metage ought to be abolished: notwithstanding the Public Act of 1864, by which the duty is now levied by weight instead of by measure, and such measuring is therefore useless, unnecessary, an annoyance, and an inconvenience to the trade when and wherever performed: notwithstanding also that this "measuring" or "metage," in cases where it is performed, is done against the wishes of the consignees: notwithstanding further, that the fact is, that in some instances the metage is not performed at all; yet the Corporation still insist upon their claim to that compulsory metage, whether performed uselessly, or not performed at all, and levy the same, and thereby tax all grain, &c. at the rate of one penny three farthings ($1\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*) per quarter, or thereabouts.

Many of the petitioners are millers, distillers, and malsters, whose manufactories, &c. are not situated within the City.

The Corporation have taken no further steps since 1864 to obtain from Parliament the power

App. No. 10.

to weigh grain, &c., but have taken action against some members of the trade, and threatened others with legal proceedings, for refusing to pay the metage.

In some cases processes were issued out of the Lord Mayor's Court, so that the Corporation actually sought to try their right before themselves.

Some of these claims have been paid under protest, others have been resisted, and remain unsettled to this day, as for instance, the case of Messrs. Perks and others.

The Corporation, on the refusal of several members of the trade to submit to what they considered an illegal demand, not only resorted to the previously-stated threats of actions at common law, and bills in Chancery, but actually distributed on the Corn Exchange notices similar to those annexed, containing the names of the parties refusing.

The obvious intention of the circulation of these notices was to coerce parties into payment; but the proceeding in other respects of posting merchants and traders in such a manner in a public market, by the City Corporation, is one which should be brought under the notice of Parliament.

If the object of the Corporation had been to act in the legal vindication of their right to the metage, that could have been accomplished by proceeding with their threatened lawsuits against Messrs. Perks and other parties.

The position of the case now is:—

1. The metage is only levied on grain arriving into the port by water.

2. It is not levied on grain arriving by railway.

3. It is a claim for measure which is not required, the duty being levied by weight.

It is therefore respectfully submitted, that this claim to compulsory metage on the part of the Corporation of London is an unfair and arbitrary tax upon trade, as well as upon the community at large, and calls for the interference of Parliament with a view to its abolition.

Millis Coventry.
Edward Hales.
J. B. Perks.
Henry F. Tiarks,
Of the firm of J. Henry Schröder & Co.

S. W. Keene,
Hon. Secretary.

A Public Meeting of Gentlemen interested in the Corn Trade was held on Friday, the 17th November, at the Corn Exchange Subscription Room, Mr. *Millis Coventry* in the Chair, to take into consideration the present system of Compulsory Metage.

The following resolutions were proposed and carried unanimously:—

Proposed by Mr. Stephen A. Ralli (Messrs. Ralli Brothers),
Seconded by Mr. J. B. Perks (Messrs. J. B. and T. H. Perks),

"That the charge for the compulsory metage of grain in the City of London is unjust and oppressive, and that it is desirable to take measures to resist the claims made by the City in enforcing payment of the same."

Proposed by Mr. H. F. Tiarks (Messrs. J. H. Schröder & Co.),
Seconded by Mr. S. W. Keene (Messrs. Watney & Keene),

"That subscriptions be entered into to pay for legal and other expenses, and parties subscribing to name the largest sum for which they will be liable, and one-fifth to be paid at once to an account to be opened as a Compulsory Metage Resistance Fund, at the Consolidated Bank, in the names of Mr. Stephen Ralli, Mr. Millis Coventry, Mr. H. F. Tiarks, and Mr. J. B. Perks, who shall be authorised to make needful payments, as ordered by the committee."

Proposed by Mr. E. Hales,
Seconded by Mr. John Watney (Messrs. D. I. & J. Watney),

"That Messrs. Stephen Ralli, H. Millis Coventry, H. F. Tiarks, J. B. Perks, Edward Hales, and S. W. Keene, with power to add to their number, be appointed a committee to carry out the resolutions, to make needful calls and payments, and to meet the subscribers, and report to them as they may see desirable."

Subscriptions received by the Consolidated Bank, by the treasurers, and by the secretary, Mr. S. W. Keene, 13, Trinity-square, E.C., to whom all communications are to be addressed.

London, 30 November 1865.

To Messrs. *John Brownjohn* and *Thomas Holway Perks*, Shad Thames, Horselydown, S.E.

The officers of the Corporation of London now present claim the right of measuring by bulk, and also by weight, all grain that has been brought into the Port of London by the Thames, and which grain has not yet been measured by the Corporation.

Messrs. J. B. and T. H. Perks will be responsible to the Corporation, and to those claiming under them, for all loss they may either suffer in consequence of the right being interfered with.

A refusal now made by Messrs. J. B. and T. H. Perks will be considered a continuing refusal until the Corporation receive notice that the obstruction has been removed.

Corn Meters' Office,
17 May 1865.

Joseph M. Sharpe,
Clerk to the Board of Corn Meters in Trust.

Appendix, No. 11.

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

App. No. 11.

STATEMENT relative to the CHIEF BARS and Street OBSTRUCTIONS in the METROPOLIS.

Superintending Architect's Department,
Spring Gardens, 28 March 1867.

IN obedience to the Order of the Board, dated 22nd February, "that the superintending architect be directed to prepare a statement of the chief bars and obstructions in the metropolis, with a marked plan to show them, so that evidence, if necessary, may be laid before the Committee on the Traffic Metropolis Bill," I beg to report thereon as follows :—

IN THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER.

In the parish of *St. George, Hanover-square*, on the estate of the Marquis of Westminster, there are several gates erected under authority of the statute passed 16th June 1834 (4 Will. 4, c. 58, Local, ss. 46 and 47), for preventing oxen, sheep, or swine, waggons, or other heavy carriages, carts, stage coaches, omnibuses, or other carriges for hire, except hackney coaches or cabriolets, from passing through Belgrave-square, Eaton-square, Chesham-place, Wilton-crescent, and the streets or places communicating therewith. This Act was to amend a previous statute of 7 Geo. 4, c. 58, Local, passed in 1826, and which also gave power to erect gates, &c., by s. 130.

Gate opposite St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square.
Gate opposite Eccleston-street, Eaton-square.
Gate opposite Lyal-street, Eaton-square.
Gate opposite Eaton-place, Eaton-square.
Gate in Wilton-place, Wilton-crescent.
Gate in Eaton-terrace.
Gate at Pont-street (Lowndes estate).
Gate at St. George's-road.
Gate at Belgrave-road, by Eccleston-square.
Gate at Belgrave-road, by Warwick-square.
Gate at Warwick-square, by St. George's-road.
Gate in Warwick-street, by St. George's-road.

The last two are both on Mr. Wise's estate, and the authority not known.

All these streets are now subject to parish management, and charged on the general rates.

There are other gates in streets which the parish does not maintain.

Gate in Harewood-place, closed against all traffic.
Bar in Tenterden-street.

These are on the estates of the Earl of Harewood and the Earl of Carnarvon.

Chain at Charles-street, Berkeley-square, occasionally closed from 6 A.M. to 11 A.M.

This is on the Berkeley estate.

Chain or bar put up during the performance of Divine Service at St. George's Church, on Sundays and other days mentioned in Act of Parliament, 7 Geo. 4, c. 121, s. 123.

In *St. James's Parish* there are no bars or private obstructions.

In St. Martin-in-the-Fields Parish.

A bar in Great Scotland-yard, next Whitehall-place.

A bar at the south end of Northumberland-street, but has not been used for years.

In St. Margaret and St. John Parishes.

Bar in Little George-street.
Bar in Carteret-street.
Bar not fixed, but right not abandoned, at junction of Park-street and Dartmouth-street.
Ditto, northern end of Exhibition-road.
Wall and iron railing dividing Park-street from Queen-square.
Wall dividing portions of Princes-gate.

BOROUGH OF ST. MARYLEBONE.

In St. Marylebone Parish.

Gate at northern end of Harley-street.
Gate at northern end of Devonshire-place.
Gate at Harewood-place, Harewood-square.
Gate at Wyndham-place, Bryanston-square.
Gate at Bryanston-place, Bryanston-square.
Two gates at northern end of Park-crescent.
Bars at each end of Huntsworth-terrace, Portman-market.

App. No. 11.

In St. Pancras Parish.

Gate at Merton-lane, Fitzroy-park, Highgate.
Gate at The Grove, Fitzroy-park, Highgate.
Gate at west end of Merton-lane.
Gate at Haverstock-hill, Maitland-park.
Bar at Southampton-road, Maitland-park.
Bar at Southampton-road, Maitland-park-terrace.
Gate at York-road, Camden-park-road.
Gate at York-road, Clifton-road.
Gate at Camden-mews, Camden-park-road.
Gate at St. Paul's-road, by York-road.
Gate at Northern-road, by King's-road.
Gate at St. Paul's-road, by King's-road.
Gate at College-place, by King-street.
Gates at Oakley-square, by Crowndale-road.
Gate at Mabledon-place, by Euston-road.
Gate at Upper Woburn-place.
Gate at Gough-street, by boundary.
Gate at Frederick-street, by Gray's Inn-road.
Gate at Pakenham-street, by Cubitt's premises.
Gate at Doughty-street, by Henry-street.
Gate at Heathcote-street, by Gray's Inn-road.
Gate at Sidmouth-street, by Regent-square Church.
Gate at Prospect-terrace, Gray's Inn-road.
Gate at Torrington-place, by Torrington-square.
Gate at Endsleigh-street, by Tavistock-square.
Gate at Taviton-street, by Gordon-square.
Gate at Gordon-street, by Euston-square.
Gate at Gower-street, by University Hospital.
Gate at Harrington-square, by Lidlington-place.

In Paddington Parish.

Gate at southern side of Sussex-square, Hyde-park-gardens.
Gate at Sussex-place, Devonport-street.
Gates at north and south sides of Cambridge-place, Norfolk-square.
Gate on South side of Craven-lane, Craven-hill-gardens.
Gate at west end of Talbot-road, on boundary of the parish and Kensington.
Gate leading to Kensington parish, on road, at flank of No. 101, Ledbury-road.
Gate at Princes-square, at its junction with Kensington Gardens-square.
Gate at Irongate Wharf-road, Bone's-place.

In the Borough of Finsbury.

In the Parish of Clerkenwell.

Bar at one end and posts at other end of Owen-street, between St. John-street-road and Goswell-road.

(Kept private by Brewers Company, except for foot passengers.)

Bar in Wilderness-row.
(Kept up by the Governors of the Charterhouse.)

Bar in front of New River Office, between Garnault-place and Eliza-place.
(Kept up by New River Company.)

In Parish of St. Luke, Old-street.

Gates at end of Tabernacle-walk, on the property of Corporation of City of London.

In Holborn District.

Bar in Charterhouse-square.
Bar in Charterhouse-lane.
Bar in Warwick-place, Bedford-row.
Bar in Doughty-street.

In Strand District.

Gates in Southampton-street, Strand.
Gates in Burleigh-street.
Bar in Maiden-lane.

Borough of Tower Hamlets.

In the Parish of Shoreditch.

Gate on boundary with St. Luke, in Shepperdess-walk.
Gate at Windsor-terrace, by Edward-street Wenlock-road.
Gate in Christopher-street, Wilson-street Moorfields.
Gate in King-street, by Clifton-street, Finsbury Market.
Gate in Queen-street, Worship-street.
Gate in Mary-street, Kingsland-road.
Gate in Hare-walk, Kingsland-road.

In the Parish of Mile End Old Town.

There are no private street bars.

In the Parish of St. George-in-the-East.

There are no private street bars.

In the District of Whitechapel.

The only bars are two, put up by the Tower authorities.
One in George-street, Tower-hill.
One in Postern-row.

In the Limehouse District.

There are no private street bars.

In the District of Poplar.

There are toll-gates:
In West Ferry-road.
In East Ferry-road.
Bar and fountain at Randall's Market, Upper North-street.
Gate at Albert-place, leading from High-street Bow, to High-street, Bromley.
Gate at Tomlin's-grove, High-street, Bromley.
Gate at Manor House-road, in continuation Brunswick-road.

In the District of Hackney.

Bar in Barrett-grove.
Bar in Lordship-road; toll taken by owner.
Bar in Grange-road.
Bar in Springfield, Clapton.
Bar in Grove-road, Clapton; toll taken by owner.
Posts and chain in Lansdowne-road.
Posts in Triangle-place.
Bar in Temple Mills.

Borough of Lambeth.

In the Parish of St. Mary, Newington.

Bar in New-street, Kennington Park-road.
Bar in South-place, Kennington.
Bar in Surrey-square, Hen and Chicken's-lane.

In the Parish of Camberwell.

Bar in Camberwell-grove (top towards Grove-lane).
Bar in South-grove, Peckham.
Bar in Victoria-road, Peckham.
Bar in Crescent, Nunhead-lane.
Bar in Chiswell-street, Camberwell.
Bar at Camberwell-green.
Bar at Surrey Villas, Nunhead-green.
Bar in Penge-road, Dulwich.
Bar in Court-lane, Dulwich.
Bar at Champion-hill.
Bar at Albert and Victoria-terrace, Southampton-street.
Bar at Clayton-road, Peckham.

This obstruction is stated by the Vestry to have been created evidently with the intention of screening the owners of the houses within the obstructed space from that expense in the construction of the road which recent legislation would cast upon them, and it would compel vehicles proceeding from Peckham to Nunhead to take a circuitous route.

Borough of Southwark.

In the District of Southwark.

Bar in Pickle Herring-street.

Put up by owners to show that the extent of the public right of way is restricted to the width of five feet.

But just beyond there is an archway through which no carriage can pass.

In the Parish of Bermondsey.

Bar in Crossley-row, where the entrance is built over, and private. The street beyond the bar is public.

The halfpenny hatch in Baalzephon-street, at which toll is demanded.

This obstruction the Vestry has endeavoured for some time to get removed. It is a lease-hold held from the Corporation of the City of London, of which about seven years are unexpired.

In the Parish of St. George-the-Martyr.

There are several streets where posts are erected.

Halfpenny hatch, or private toll-gate, at the north end of Hunter-street, Old Kent-road.

Iron gates at the entrance to Buckingham-square, in the New Kent-road.

Borough of Greenwich.

In the District of Greenwich.

Posts across Hale-street, leading from High-street to Church-street, St. Paul's, Deptford.

Bar across the end of Rokeby-road, leading to Brockley-road.

Bar at the end of a road leading out of the Brockley-road.

The Greenwich and Woolwich Lower-road Turnpike Trust is still in existence, and has two gates and side-bars existing.

One toll-house and gate by Greenwich Union.

One toll-house and gate by the entrance from Charlton to Greenwich in the Lower Charlton-road.

In the Parish of Plumstead.

Bar in Anglesea-road.
Bar in Mount Pleasant.
Bar in Griffin-road.
Bar in Glyndon-street.
Bar in Orchard-road.
Bar in Walmer-road.
Bar in Durham-road.
Bar in Swinggate-lane.
Bar at Plumstead Common.
Bar at Bastal Common.

In the Parish of Woolwich.

Post on the Pattison estate, at Anglesea-road and Walpole-place.

Bar at boundary of Woolwich parish, at Anglesea.

Bar at Brewer-place (mews).

Bar at New Store Guard. Entrance to barracks from New-road. Hanging bar closed once a year.

Bar at Harrington-road, West-end.

Bar at Trafalgar-street, leading to Woodland-terrace in Lower Maryon-road, between the parishes of Woolwich and Charlton, occasionally used.

Posts at end of Woodville-street, at boundary of parish next Charlton.

Bar at Orchard-street, at St. Mary-street end, constantly used.

Bar at George-place, Orchard-street end, always closed.

App. No. 11.

In the District of Wandsworth.

In the parish of Wandsworth, no bars.

In Clapham Parish.

Bar at entrance to Grafton-square from Wertemburg-street.

In the Parish of Chelsea.

Bar at east end of Harriet-street.
(Bars at Lowndes-street and Halkin-terrace, already noticed.)

In the Parish of Kensington.

Iron gates at Kensington-crescent.
Wooden bar at Towell-street.
Iron gates at Palace Gardens.
Iron gates at Linden-grove.
Wooden bar in Beaufort-gardens.
Iron gates at Campden Hill-road.

In the Parish of Hampstead.

Bar kept up by Miss Sulivan, of Frognal, with small piece of private road on north side of parish churchyard, between Church-row and Frognal.

A small toll is taken.

The Vestry pays 10*s.* yearly for its horses and carts passing through.

Tradesmen are charged one penny each time.

By returns obtained from most of the surveyors to local authorities, the names and situation of streets and gates have been obtained; and the chief gates which affect central traffic are indicated on the accompanying plan.

(signed) *George Vulliamy,*
Superintending Architect.

Appendix, No. 12.

Summary of Powers and Duties of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of *London*, and the Means by which such Powers and Duties are carried into effect. App. No. 12.

The Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons in Common Council assembled, and at present are 101 in number; a meeting of the whole body takes place every fortnight, and there are three committees which meet from week to week, or from day to day when the business requires it.

General Powers.

1. Making, altering, repairing, and cleansing all common sewers, vaults, and drains.
2. Paving, cleansing, lighting, and improving streets.

For execution of Sewers Acts the Commissioners have power to appoint clerks, surveyors, collectors, inspectors of pavements, sewers, and nuisances, medical officers of health, officers, servants, and persons generally. Act, 1848, s. 2.

For execution of works authorised by Sewers Acts, and for furnishing materials and labour, or for any other matters and things for carrying out the Acts, the Commissioners have power to enter into contracts with any persons on such terms and conditions as they think proper. s. 33.

I.—Sewers and Drainage.

ss. 52. 76.

All sewers and public drains, and all things connected therewith, and the entire management and control thereof, are vested in the Commissioners. Act, 1848, s. 52.

[But subject to the Local Management Act (Metropolis), which vests main sewers in the Board of Works; viz., Fleet, Goswell-street, London Bridge, and two branches and Irongate.] 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120, ss. 68–135, and Schedule (D) to Act.

All drains within and without houses, and all privies, &c., are under the absolute survey and control of the Commissioners and their officers. Act, 1848, s. 70.

The sections of the Sewers Acts relative to sewers and drains give the Commissioners very full powers in these matters, and the complete management thereof. ss. 52. 76.

II.—Nuisances and Sanitary Matters.

Act, 1848, ss. 76. 114.

The Commissioners are empowered to appoint one or more medical officer or officers of health. Act, 1851, ss. 10 18. &c.

The powers and duties of Medical Officer of Health: Act, 1848, s. 80.

(1.) To inspect and report periodically on the sanitary condition of the City.

(2.) To ascertain existence of diseases, especially epidemics.

(3.) To point out nuisances and other local causes affecting health.

(4.) To take cognizance of contagious diseases, and point out remedy.

(5.) Modes of ventilation of churches, schools, lodging-houses and public buildings generally.

(6.) Other analogous duties.

The Commissioners can appoint or contract with scavengers to— Act, 1848, s. 82.

(1.) Sweep, cleanse, and water streets.

(2.) Collect dirt and refuse.

(3.) Cleanse sewers, drains, and privies.

App. No. 12.

The Commissioners are required to appoint inspectors of nuisances.

(1.) To superintend scavengers' duties.

(2.) To report to the Commissioners all breaches of their rules and regulations.

(3.) To point out nuisances.

Act, 1851, s. 24. The Commissioners are required to appoint inspectors of slaughter-houses and meat.

The general powers of the Commissioners under their Acts as to sanitary matters are:

Act, 1848, ss. 77. 81. 7. s. 82. (1.) To order cleansing and purifying of houses and abatement of nuisances.

(2.) Removal of dust and refuse, and cleansing drains.

Act, 1851, s. 10. (3.) Registration and inspection of common lodging-houses.

(These powers are not affected by the Common Lodging-houses Act, which excludes the City.)

Act, 1851, s. 18. (4.) License and registration of slaughter-houses; to make rules and regulations for preserving cleanliness thereof, with penalties, inspection, &c.

Act, 1851, s. 26. (5.) Superintendence of all meat in slaughter-houses, shops, and places; power to seize and and dispose of same, and proceed for penalties; "Nuisances Amendment Act, 1855," generally used for this purpose.

Act, 1848, s. 98 (6.) Commissioners have general power, for themselves and their officers, to enter all houses for purposes of Act.

ss. 99. 102. (7.) Power to compel due provision of privies, ashpits, &c., to private houses.

(8.) Power to erect and maintain all requisite public conveniences.

s. 105. (9.) To compel due provision as to water supply, cisterns, &c., to private houses.

ss. 108. 113. (10.) To abate nuisances arising from manufactories.

Act, 1851, s. 51. (11.) To compel consumption of smoke of manufactories.

All these matters may be enforced by the Commissioners by penalties, or by compulsory execution of works and recovery of costs from owner.

Their powers in these matters are largely supplemented by the Nuisances Consolidation and Amendment Acts, which make them by name the local authority for the execution thereof; and by "The Sanitary Act, 1866," under which they have made regulations for houses let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family, which have been approved by the Secretary of State, and are now in full force.

III.—As to Streets.

Act, 1848, ss. 115. 167.

ss. 115. 118. 1. *Lighting.*—Vest all public lamps in the Commissioners, and give them powers to contract with gas companies and others to light the City.

ss. 119. 151. 2. *Paving.*—All paving and materials of carriage and footways are vested in the Commissioners; they have powers—

ss. 120. 262. (1.) To pave and repair all streets, and to raise and lower the soil thereof.

(2.) To compel owners of courts to pave.

s. 125. (3.) To control all vaults under streets which cannot be constructed without their consent.

ss. 133. 142. (4). To control gas and water companies and others taking up paving, which they cannot do without the consent of the Commissioners.

s. 144. (5.) General management and control of pavements.

ss. 147, 148. (6.) To water streets, provide public water supply and dust bins, &c.

(7.) To compel cleansing of footways by occupiers of houses.

3. As to projections, houses, &c.

s. 153. (1.) To compel owners to set back projecting houses, when taken down, to line of street.

ss. 154–156. (2.) To remove projections.

ss. 157–160. (3.) To control dangerous structures.
(This they generally do pursuant to the powers expressly given to them by name by the Metropolitan Buildings Act.)

ss. 161–165. (4.) To compel and license erection of hoards during building or repair of houses.

Under

IV.—As to Improvement of Streets.

App., No. 12.

Under the Act 57 Geo. 3, c. 29, the Commissioners of Sewers, as the Commissioners having the control of the pavements of the City, are empowered to alter, widen, turn, or extend the streets, or other public places in the City, and to lengthen, continue, or open the same from the sides or ends of any streets, into any other street or public place, and to pave the new parts, and generally carry out the powers given by the Act for compulsory taking of houses, buildings, and lands projecting into, obstructing, or preventing them from so altering or widening such streets. The consolidated rate is expressly made chargeable with the costs of such improvements. The Commissioners can sell and dispose of, or demise surplus lands. s. 80. Act, 1848, s. 168. Act, 1851, ss 54, 55.

V.—As to Public Improvements effected by Lowering and Paving Churchyards and Burial Grounds.

1. They can, with consent of Bishop of London, arrange with parish authorities for appropriation of churchyards and burial grounds for public improvements and enlargement of streets. Act, 1851, s. 32.

2. They may, with consent of Bishop of London, lower, plant, and pave burial grounds. s. 34.

3. They have power to treat with trustees and Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral for appropriation of west area of churchyard. s. 46.

VI.—Rating.

1. Powers to make sewers rate, not exceeding 4*d.* in the pound in any one year, for constructing, repairing, and cleansing sewers, and maintaining sewerage and drainage.

2. To make a consolidated rate, not exceeding 1*s.* 6*d.* in the pound in any one year, for forming, making, maintaining, repairing, paving, lighting, sweeping, cleansing, and watering streets in City; making and carrying out such improvements as they are authorised to make, for sewerage purposes, officers' salaries, and all expenses of carrying out Acts.

Dangerous Structures.

Under 2nd part of "Metropolitan Buildings Act, 1855" (18 & 19 Vict. c. 122), the Commissioners have power in regard to dangerous buildings, which beyond the City is exercised by the police.

Burial Board.

By the Act 15 & 16 Vict. c. 85, s. 43, the Commissioners are empowered as a Burial Board for the City.

Bakehouses.

And under "The Bakehouses Regulation Act, 1863" (26 & 27 Vict. c. 40), the Commissioners are entrusted with the regulation of bakehouses within the City of London.

Improvements.

Sums expended by the Commissioners of Sewers therein in the following Years.

——	Gross Amount.	——	Gross Amount.
	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
1857 - - -	16,057 4 6	1862 - - -	35,087 12 1
1858 - - -	21,269 3 5	1863 - - -	20,166 7 5
1859 - - -	19,240 1 1	1864 - - -	36,433 13 –
1860 - - -	10,764 10 11	1865 - - -	29,660 1 8
1861 - - -	16,153 5 11	1866 - - -	121,547 4 1
		Total - £.	326,379 4 1

Anterior to the above dates there had been expended by the Commissioners about 126,000 *l.* in the same works of improving and widening the streets and lanes of the City of London.

The consolidated rate produces about 109,000 *l.* in the year. The sewers rate produces at 4*d.* about 26,000 *l.*

There are about 50 miles of public way in the City of London.

LOCAL ACTS OF THE METROPOLIS.

PARISH, &c.	1. Title and Date of Local Act.	2. (1.) The Number of Persons Elected or Appointed under it, and (2.) The Name and Style of the Offices to which they are Elected or Appointed.	3. The Manner in which the Election or Appointment is made.	4. The Period for which the Offices are held.	5. The Nature of the Duties Performed.	
CITY OF LONDON.						
St. Dunstan-in-the-East -	6 Geo. 4, c. cxcv. 5 July 1825.	(2.) Trustees - - - - - -	On occurrence of vacancies successors to be elected by remaining trustees. *Qualification.*—The possession or occupation of property, in the parish, of 50 *l.* yearly value.	Until death, refusal to act, or disqualification.	To raise the necessary funds for the payment of a debt of 27,500 *l.* incurred in the restoration of the parish church.	
St. Botolph Without, Aldgate	6 Geo. 3, c. lxiv. -	(1.) Churchwardens, overseers, and all other inhabitants (*a*) who have served, or been fined for excusal from serving, the office of churchwarden and overseer. (2.) Vestrymen.	- - - - - - - *Qualification.*—In the case of inhabitants (*a*), the occupation of premises of 10 *l.* [rent] per annum; and in the case of others, the occupation of premises of 20 *l.* [rent] per annum.	- - -	To make the poor rates.	
St. Bridget or St Bride -	7 Geo. 4, c. cxiv. -	(1.) Vicar, churchwardens, overseers, and 24 inhabitants. (2.) Trustees of the Poor.	To be elected by inhabitants in vestry - - *Qualification.*—Trustees must pay rates for premises in the parish valued at 35 *l.* per annum, or must have passed the office of churchwarden or overseer.	Six trustees (in rotation) to vacate office yearly.	To make rates [and generally to take measures for the better relief and employment of the poor]. (*a*)	(*a*) St. Bridget or St. Bride is now comprised in the West London Union.
[St. Dunstan-in-the-West] Serjeant's Inn.	3 & 4 Will. 4, c. cx. 9 July 1833.	(1.) Any three or more members of the society. (2.) Committee.	To be chosen by the society - - -	During the society's pleasure.	To value and rate chambers for the purpose of raising the funds required for payment of rent, of church rates, and of poor rates.	
St. Botolph, Bishopsgate -	*See* after.					

PARISHES IN SCHEDULE A. of 18 & 19 VICT. c. 120.

SCHEDULE A., Part I.						
St. Marylebone - - -	35 Geo. 3, c. lxxiii. 19 May, 1795. 53 Geo. 3, c. clxiii. 22 June 1813. 3 Geo. 4, c. lxxxiv. 24 June 1822.	(1.) Housekeepers - - - - - (2.) Vestrymen.	To be elected by remaining vestrymen; by ballot. *Qualification.*—Vestrymen must be housekeepers rated at not less than 50 *l.* per annum.	Until death, refusal to act, or disqualification.	To pave, repair, cleanse, and light streets, &c., of the parish.	
		Also— (1.) Minister, churchwardens, and 30 substantial and discreet persons. (2.) Directors and guardians of the poor.	To be elected by vestrymen - - -	One year - -	To relieve and employ the poor.	

St. Pancras - - - -	59 Geo. 3, c. xxxix. 19 May 1819.	(1.) Vicar, churchwardens, and others (not exceeding 122). (2.) Vestrymen.	To be elected by remaining vestrymen - *Qualification.*—Two-thirds of vestrymen must be possessed of property of 150 *l.* clear yearly value, and assessed at 60 *l.* per annum; or must be tenants of premises assessed at 60 *l.* per annum, and be possessed of 3,000 *l.* real or personal estate; one-third must be possessed of property of 50 *l.* clear yearly value, and assessed at 35 *l.* per annum, or must be tenants of premises assessed at 35 *l.*, and possessed of real or personal estate of 1,000 *l.*	Until death, removal from parish, or refusal to act.	To make rates, appoint and remove officers, &c.	
		Also— (1.) Vicar, churchwardens, and 40 vestrymen. (2.) Directors of the poor.	To be elected by vestrymen - - -	One year - -	To exercise the powers of overseers; to relieve, govern, and employ the poor.	
St. George, Hanover-square -	7 Geo. 4, c. cxxi. 26 May 1826.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, and 20 resident householders. (2). Governors and directors of the poor.	To be elected by the vestry - - -	One year - -	To relieve and manage the poor.	
		Also— (1.) Twenty-five resident householders. (2.) Committee of paving.	To be elected by the vestry - - -	One year - -	To make, pave, cleanse, repair, and light streets, &c.; to remove and prevent nuisances, &c.	
		Also— (1.) Thirty-six ratepayers and six persons specially appointed. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by ratepayers who have been rated for one year. *Qualification.*—One-third to consist of resident householders assessed at not less than 150 *l.*; one-third assessed at not less than 80 *l.*; one-third assessed at not less than 40 *l.*	Three years - -	To pave, light, and cleanse certain streets, roads, &c. in the parish.	
St. Mary, Islington -	5 Geo. 4, c. cxxv. 17 June 1824.	(1.) Vicar, churchwardens, overseers, and 60 occupiers of property. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by the vestry - - - *Qualification.*—Trustees must occupy premises rated at 30 *l.*	Three years - -	To relieve the poor; to pave, light, and cleanse streets, &c.	
St. Leonard, Shoreditch -	21 & 22 Vict. c. cxxxii. 23 July 1858.	(1.) Forty inhabitant householders. (2.) Board of Guardians.	To be elected under the orders of the Poor Law Board. *Qualification.*—Guardians must be qualified according to 4 & 5 Will. 4, c. 76.	- - -	To administer the laws for the relief and management of the poor.	
		Also— (1.) Vicar, churchwardens, and 12 inhabitant householders. (2.) Charity trustees.	To be appointed by the Charity Commissioner from a list of candidates nominated by the Vestry. *Qualification.*—Trustees must be rated at 30 *l.*	Until death, disqualification, or resignation.	To manage charity estates and funds.	
SCHEDULE A., Part II.						
Paddington - - - -	5 Geo. 4, c. cxxvi. 17 June 1824.	(1.) Perpetual curate, churchwardens, overseers, lord of the manor, resident peers, Members of Parliament, privy councillors, judges and justices of the peace, and (*a*) not more than 72 others. (2.) Vestrymen.	(*a*) To be elected by ballot by ratepayers assessed at 10 *l.* *Qualification.*—Vestrymen (*a*) must be assessed at 30 *l.*	One-third to vacate office every year.	[To employ the poor]; to pave, light, and improve streets, &c.; to remove nuisances, &c.	This parish is under a Board of Guardians.

PARISHES IN SCHEDULE A. of 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120—*continued.*

PARISH, &c.	1. Title and Date of Local Act.	2. (1.) The Number of Persons Elected or Appointed under it, and (2.) The Name and Style of the Offices to which they are Elected or Appointed.	3. The Manner in which the Election or Appointment is made.	4. The Period for which the Offices are held.	5. The Nature of the Duties Performed.	
SCHEDULE A., Part II.—*continued.*						
St. Matthew, Bethnal Green	53 Geo. 3, c. cxiii. 3 June 1813. 4 Geo. 4, c. xxi. 12 May 1823.	(1.) Rector, treasurers of the Poor Rate funds, churchwardens, overseers, and 90 others. (2.) Vestrymen, governors, and directors of the poor.	(*b*) Sixty vestrymen to be elected by male inhabitant householders rated for six months. Thirty vestrymen, estate governors, &c., to be elected by owners of property of 80 *l.* clear yearly value. *Qualification.*—These vestrymen must be rated at 15 *l.* or upwards.	(*b*) Ten in rotation to vacate office every year.	[To make and levy rates for the relief of the poor], and the lighting, watching, and cleansing of the parish.	This parish is under a Board of Guardians.
St. Mary, Newington -	54 Geo. 3, c. cxiii. 17 June 1814.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, resident justices, and 32 others. (2.) Governors and guardians of the poor.	To be elected by inhabitant ratepayers - *Qualification.*—Governors and guardians must be assessed at 30 *l.*, and possess property of 50 *l.* yearly value, or real or personal estate of 1,000 *l.*	Twelve to vacate office every year.	To govern, employ, and maintain the poor.	
St. Giles, Camberwell - -	3 Will. 4, c. xxxiii. 6 May 1833.	(1.) Ten inhabitants - - - - (2.) Trustees of the estates belonging to the poor.	To be elected by the inhabitants in vestry -	Until death, resignation, disqualification, or dismissal by the vestry.	To manage and dispose of estates for the use and relief of the poor.	This parish is under a Board of Guardians.
St. James, Westminster -	1 Jac. 2, c. xxii. -	(1.) Thirty-four inhabitant householders (2.) Vestrymen. Also—	To be elected by the remaining vestrymen -	Until "death or other voidance."	To order and regulate the parish affairs.	
	2 Geo. 3, c. lviii. -	(1.) Twenty-one substantial and discreet persons, either vestrymen, resident justices, or other creditable inhabitants, with churchwardens and overseers. (2.) Governors and directors of the poor.	To be elected by the vestrymen - - -	One year.	To maintain, govern, and employ the poor.	
St. James and St. John, Clerkenwell.	15 Geo. 3, c. xxiii.	(1.) Not more than 63 persons - - (2.) Guardians or governors of the poor.	To be elected by inhabitant ratepayers - *Qualification.*—Guardians or governors must be rated at 20 *l.*, or must possess a real or personal estate of 500 *l.*	Until death, removal from the parish, or resignation.	To relieve, govern, and employ the poor in the parish workhouse.	
St. Luke, Chelsea - -	4 Vict. c. xvii. -	(1.) - - - (*a*) - - - (2.) Board of Guardians.	(*a*) To be constituted and elected (under the order of the Poor Law Commissioners), in accordance with the provisions of the Acts for the better administration of the poor laws.	- - -	To remove paupers, make the Poor Rate, and discharge the duties assigned to guardians.	
St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington.	14 & 15 Vict. c. cxvi. "The Kensington Improvement Act, 1851."	(1.) Thirty-six persons - - - (2.) Commissioners.	To be elected by ratepayers and owners. *Qualification.*—Commissioners must be males, of full age, rated at not less than 30 *l.*	One-third in rotation to vacate office every year.	To pave, light, cleanse, water, and improve streets, &c.	

St. Luke, Middlesex	48 Geo. 3, c. xcvii. 3 June 1808.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, and ratepaying householders, who have served, or been fined for excusal from serving, as churchwardens or overseers, and (*b*) other householders. (2.) Vestrymen. Also— (1.) Forty-eight substantial and discreet vestrymen. (2.) Guardians of the poor.	*Qualification.*—(*b*) Vestrymen must be rated at not less than 30 *l.* To be elected by vestrymen	Three years	To maintain, govern, and employ the poor.	
St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark.	56 Geo. 3, c. lvi. 20 June 1816.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, and 21 resident householders. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by the inhabitants in vestry	Until death, disqualification, or refusal to serve.	To enlarge and enclose churchyard.	
St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey.	31 Geo. 3, c. xix., 49 Geo. 3, c. clxxxiv. 19 June 1809.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, tidesmen, overseers, resident justices, and 56 others. (2.) Governors and directors of the poor	To be elected by inhabitant ratepayers *Qualification.*—Governors must be rated as occupiers of premises of 10 *l.* yearly rent, or be possessed of a freehold estate in the parish of 50 *l.* clear yearly value, or of a personal estate of 500 *l.*	Until death, removal from parish, or refusal to act.	To enlarge the burial ground; to manage charity estates and trusts [to relieve and employ the poor]; to make poor rates, remove paupers, &c.	This parish is under a Board of Guardians.
St. George-in-the-East	46 Geo. 3, c. lxxvii. 20 June 1806.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, and 14 substantial and discreet vestrymen. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by rector, churchwardens, overseers, and vestrymen. *Qualification.*—Trustees must be resident householders, possessed of property of clear yearly value of 40 *l.*, and assessed at 15 *l.*, or occupy property assessed at 15 *l.*, and be possessed of 1,000 *l.* real or personal estate.	One year	To raise and [dispose of funds for the relief of the poor], and for lighting and cleansing streets, &c.	This parish is under a Board of Guardians.[1]
St. Martin-in-the-Fields	23 Geo. 3, c. xc.	(1.) Twenty-four resident householders (2.) Committee.	To be elected by the vestry *Qualification.*—Committee men must be possessed of 2,000 *l.* real or personal estate.	One year	To pave, cleanse, and light streets, &c.	
Mile End Old Town	50 Geo. 3, c. cxxxi. 24 May 1813.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, and 50 inhabitants. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by the inhabitants rated at 10 *l.* per annum. *Qualification.*—Trustees must be rated at not less than 10 *l.* per annum.	One year	To levy and collect rates.	
Woolwich	47 Geo. 3, sess. 2, c. cxi.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, and 30 residents. (2.) Commissioners.	To be elected by ballot by the vestry	One year	[(*a*) To relieve, employ, and regulate the poor;] to pave, light, cleanse, and watch the town; to provide a burial ground and regulate the market.	(*a*) Woolwich is now comprised in the Greenwich Union.
St. John, Hampstead	39 & 40 Geo. 3, c. xxxv. 30 May 1800.	(1.) Lord of the manor, resident justices, churchwardens, overseers, resident licensed curates, and others. (2.) Guardians of the poor and trustees	To be elected by the remaining guardians *Qualification.*—Guardians must be inhabitants rated at 30 *l.*	Until death, removal from the parish, or refusal to act.	To govern and maintain the poor	This parish is under a Board of Guardians.

PARISHES IN SCHEDULE B. of 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120.

PARISH, &c.	1. Title and Date of Local Act.	2. (1.) The Number of Persons Elected or Appointed under it, and (2.) The Name and Style of the Offices to which they are Elected or Appointed.	3. The Manner in which the Election or Appointment is made.	4. The Period for which the Offices are held.	5. The Nature of the Duties Performed.	
Schedule B., Part I.						
Saint Mary, Whitechapel -	16 & 17 Vict. c. cxli. 4 August 1853.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, and 60 substantial and discreet vestrymen. (2.) Trustees. Also— (1.) - - - - - - - - - (2.) Vestrymen.	To be elected by vestrymen - - - *Qualification.*—Trustees must pay to the poor and paving rate 3 *l.* per annum. - - - - - - - - - -	One year - - - - -	[To appoint (with consent of Poor Law Board) officers to execute laws for the relief of the poor], to pave, light, and improve streets, &c. To make rates, &c.	This parish is in the Whitechapel Union.
Christchurch, Spitalfields -	2 Geo. 2, c. x. -	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, and ratepaying householders who have served or been fined for excusal from serving as churchwardens or overseers. (2.) Vestrymen. Also—	*Qualification.*—Vestrymen must pay 5 *s.* 6 *d.* a quarter in respect of poor rate. - - - - - - - - - -	- - -	To elect, remove, &c., officers of parish church, &c.	
	26 Geo. 2, c. xcviii. 37 Geo. 3, c. lxxix.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, and 38 others. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by the vestrymen of the parish *Qualification.*—Trustees must be rated in respect of premises of 25 *l.* yearly value, or be resident and possessed of property of 40 *l.* yearly value.	Until death, removal from the parish, or resignation.	To procure and dispose of funds for the relief and employment of the poor.	This parish is in the Whitechapel Union.
Mile End New Town - -	20 Geo. 3, c. lxvi. 53 Geo. 3, c. xxxvii. 15 April 1813.	(1.) Churchwardens, overseers, and 54 persons. (2.) Trustees (*a*) and commissioners (*b*)	To be elected by the remaining trustees and commissioners.	Until death or refusal to act.	(*a*) To relieve, maintain, and employ the poor. (*b*) To pave, cleanse, and regulate the streets, &c.	This hamlet is in the Whitechapel Union.
Norton Folgate - - -	50 Geo. 3, c. v. 12 March 1810.	(1.) Overseers, and 24 resident householders. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by inhabitants who have served or been fined for excusal from serving as overseer, constable, or headborough. *Qualification.*—Trustees must be rated at 30 *l.* per annum.	Until death, removal from place, or refusal to act.	[To govern and maintain the poor]; to cleanse, light, and watch the streets, &c.	This liberty is in the Whitechapel Union.
Old Artillery Ground - -	14 Geo. 3, c. xxx.	(1.) Thirty-five persons - - - (2.) Commissioners.	To be elected by the remaining commissioners. *Qualification.*—Commissioners must be residents possessed of 500 *l.* personal estate.	Until death, resignation, or neglect to act.	To pave, repair, water, cleanse, and light streets, &c.	
St. Margaret and St. John the Evangelist, Westminster	25 Geo. 2, c. xxiii.	(1.) Churchwardens, overseers, and 50 substantial and discreet residents. (2.) Governors and directors of the poor.	To be elected by churchwardens and vestrymen.	One year - -	To govern, maintain, and employ the poor.	
	16 & 17 Vict. c. ccxxv. 20 August 1853.	(1.) Rectors, churchwardens, and 66 resident householders of St. Margaret, and 45 resident householders of St. John. (2.) Vestrymen.	To be elected by the ratepayers - - - *Qualification.*—Vestrymen must be rated at not less than 30 *l.* per annum.	Three years - -	To provide and dispose of funds for parochial purposes.	

St. Paul, Deptford, St. Nicholas, Deptford.	27 Geo. 2 - -	(1.) Nine substantial and discreet persons out of each parish. (2.) Governors and directors of the poor.	To be elected by churchwardens and parishioners in vestry.	One year - -	To dispose of the parish funds [to regulate, govern, and employ the poor]; to repair, pave, and cleanse the streets, &c.	These parishes are in the Greenwich Union.
St. Nicholas, Deptford - -	3 Geo. 2, c. xxxiii.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, and overseers, and all other rate-paying parishioners. (2.) Vestrymen.	- - - - - - - - - -	- - -	To appoint parish officers; to provide funds for the maintenance of the parish church, &c.	
Greenwich - - - -	4 Geo. 4, c. lxx., 30 May 1823.	(1.) Churchwardens, overseers, governors, and directors of the poor.	- - - - - - - - - -	- - -	To provide for lighting, watching, removal of nuisances, &c.	
Greenwich - - - -	9 Geo. 4, c. xliii. 13 May 1828.	(1.) Twenty-one substantial and discreet resident ratepayers. (2.) Governors and directors of the poor.	To be elected by churchwardens, overseers, and parishioners in vestry.	One year - -	To provide as above, and for the maintenance of the highway [and the relief of the poor].	This parish is now in the Greenwich Union.
Streatham - - - -	30 Geo. 3, c. lxxx.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, Lord of the Manor of Tooting Beck, Lord of the Manor of Leigham, and 41 others. (2.) Guardians of the poor of the parish of Streatham.	To be elected by ratepayers, assessed at 20 *l.*, in vestry. *Qualification.*—Guardians must be rated at 20 *l.*	Until death, refusal to act, or removal from the parish.	To provide a workhouse, and govern and manage the poor.	This parish is in the Wandsworth and Clapham Union.
St. John at Hackney - -	4 Geo. 3, c. xliii. -	(1.) Vicar, churchwardens, and all who have served or been fined for excusal from serving as churchwardens, overseers, or surveyors of the highways.	- - - - - - - - - -	- - -	To raise and dispose of the funds required for lighting and watching.	
	50 Geo. 3, c. cxc. 15 June 1810.	(1.) Rector, vicar, churchwardens, overseers, and 72 persons. (2.) Trustees of the poor.	- - - - - - - - - - *Qualification.*—Trustees must be vestrymen or co-vestrymen.	Until death or disqualification.	[To maintain, regulate, and employ the poor.]	This parish is in the Hackney Union.
St. Giles-in-the-Fields and St. George, Bloomsbury.	11 Geo. 4, c. x. 8 April 1830.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, and 45 vestrymen from each parish. Also— (1.) Twelve vestrymen - - - (2.) Directors of the poor.	To be elected by ballot by voters rated at 25 *l.* *Qualification.*—One-half to be resident householders rated at not less than 75 *l.*; the others to be resident householders rated at not less than 50 *l.* To be elected by vestrymen - - -	Three years - - One year - -	To regulate the affairs of the parish. To relieve, maintain, and employ the poor.	
St. Andrew, Holborn, above the Bars, and St. George the Martyr.	6 Geo. 4, c. clxxv. 22 June 1825.	(1.) Twenty-five gentlemen, 25 tradesmen, resident justices, rector, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor. (2.) Governors and directors of the poor.	To be elected by the ratepayers - - - *Qualification.*—Governors and directors must be rated at not less than 30 *l.*	One year - -	To govern, maintain, and employ the poor.	These parishes are in the Holborn Union.
	2 Will. 4, c. lxvi. 1 June 1832.	(1.) Twenty-eight inhabitants of St. Andrew, 22 inhabitants of St. George. (2.) Commissioners.	To be elected by inhabitant householders - *Qualification.*—Commissioners must be possessed of real or personal estate of 2,000 *l.*	One year - -	To pave, cleanse, light, and improve streets, &c.	

PARISHES in Schedule B. of 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120—*continued.*

PARISH, &c.	1. Title and Date of Local Act.	2. (1.) The Number of Persons Elected or Appointed under it, and (2) The Name and Style of the Offices to which they are Elected or Appointed.	3. The Manner in which the Election or Appointment is made.	4. The Period for which the Offices are held.	5. The Nature of the Duties Performed.	
SCHEDULE B., Part I.—*continued.*						
St. Sepulchre, Middlesex -	12 Geo. 3, c. lxviii.	(1.) Vicar, churchwardens, overseers, and inhabitants. (2.) Vestrymen.	- - -

St. John, Wapping - -	22 Geo. 3, c. xxxv. 23 Geo. 3. c. xxxii.	(1.) Rector, curate, churchwardens, overseers, 25 ratepayers, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Recorder, Presidents and Treasurers of St. Bartholomew's, Christ's, Bridewell, St. Thomas's and Bethlehem Hospitals. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by mayor, &c., and vestrymen	One year - -	[To relieve and employ the poor] -	This parish is in the Stepney Union.
Wapping Street - - -	2 Geo. 3, c. xxi. -	(1.) Mayor, Aldermen, Recorder, Presidents and Treasurers of St. Bartholomew's, Christ's, Bridewell, and St. Thomas's Hospitals, and 60 other persons. (2.) Commissioners.	To be elected by the remaining commissioners. *Qualification.*—Commissioners must be possessed of property of 40 *l.* clear yearly value, or a personal estate of 1,000 *l.*	Until death or refusal to act.	To pave certain parts of St. John, Wapping.	
St. Paul, Shadwell - -	50 Geo. 3, c. ccviii. 20 June 1810.	(1.) Inhabitant householders. (2.) Vestrymen.	—	—	—	
		Also— (1.) Churchwardens, overseers, and 14 discreet and substantial persons. (2.) Trustees of the poor.	To be elected by churchwardens, overseers, and vestrymen.	Not more than two consecutive years, subject to dismissal by the vestry.	[To clothe, maintain, and employ the poor.]	This parish is in the Stepney Union.
		Also— (1.) Sixty-one householders - - (2.) Trustees for lighting, &c. (*a*)	(*a*) and (*b*) To be elected by churchwardens, overseers, and vestry.	Until death, bankruptcy, removal from parish, or refusal to act.	(*a*) To light, watch, and cleanse streets, &c. (*b*) To pave streets, &c.	
		Also— (1.) Forty-three householders. (2.) Commissioners for paving, &c. (*b*)	*Qualification.*—Trustees and commissioners (*a* and *b*) must be householders possessed of property of 20 *l.* yearly value, and assessed at 15 *l.*; or be tenants of property assessed at 15 *l.*, and be possessed of real or personal estate of 500 *l.*			
Ratcliffe - - - - -	50 Geo. 3, c. lxxxiii. 18 May 1810.	(1.) Churchwardens, overseers, and 12 substantial householders. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected by churchwardens, overseers, and inhabitants from 24 substantial candidates nominated by the churchwardens and overseers. *Qualification.*—Trustees must be possessed of property of 40 *l.* yearly value, and assessed at 20 *l.* per annum, or be tenants of property assessed at 20 *l.*, and be possessed of real or personal estate of 500 *l.*	One year - -	To repair, light, cleanse streets, &c.; to remove nuisances [and maintain, regulate, and employ poor: to make rates].	This hamlet is in the Stepney Union.
All Saints, Poplar - -	53 Geo. 3, c. lxxxiv. 21 May 1813.	(1.) Churchwardens, overseers, certain resident and non-resident ratepayers, 10 elected by the vestry, and others. (2.) Trustees.	- - - - -

PARISHES in Schedule B. of 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120—*continued.*

PARISH, &c.	1. Title and Date of Local Act.	2. (1.) The Number of Persons Elected or Appointed under it, and (2.) The Name and Style of the Offices to which they are Elected or Appointed.	3. The Manner in which the Election or Appointment is made.	4. The Period for which the Offices are held.	5. The Nature of the Duties Performed.	
SCHEDULE B., Part I.—*continued.*						
St. Mary, Stratford-le-Bow	10 Geo. 4, c. vii. 13 April 1829.	(1.) Rector, churchwardens, overseers, and 24 ratepayers. (2.) Vestrymen.	To be elected by ratepayers assessed at 15 *l.* or upwards. *Qualification.*—Vestrymen must be rated at 30 *l.* or upwards, and have paid rates for at least two years.	One year	To relieve, employ, and maintain poor; to manage parish affairs generally.	This parish is in the Poplar Union.
St. Leonard, Bromley	51 Geo. 3, c. cxxv. 25 May 1811.	(1.) Minister, churchwardens, and overseers, and 21 inhabitants. (2.) Trustees.	To be elected in a public vestry *Qualification.*—Trustees must be rated at not less than 16 *l.*	One year	To levy and collect rates for the relief of the poor.	
Christchurch, Surrey	51 Geo. 3, c. xxxii. 6 May 1811.	(1.) Thirty-two persons (2.) Commissioners.	To be elected by ratepayers in vestry *Qualification.*—Commissioners must be resident householders assessed at 35 *l.*, or possessed of a real estate of 50 *l.* clear yearly value, or of a personal estate of 1,000 *l.* clear yearly value.	One year	To cleanse, watch, light, and improve streets, &c.	
SCHEDULE B., Part II.						
Lewisham	54 Geo. 3, c. xliii. 18 May 1814.	(1.) Vicar, churchwardens, overseers, and 18 inhabitant householders. (2.) Guardians of the Poor.	To be elected by inhabitants in vestry *Qualification.*—Guardians must be possessed of an annual income from real or personal property of not less than 100 *l.*	Three years	To raise and dispose of funds for the relief and maintenance of the poor.	This parish is in the Lewisham Union.
SCHEDULE B., Part III.						
St. John, Southwark	5 Geo. 4, c. lxxiv. 28 May 1824.	(1). Thirty persons (2.) Select vestrymen.	Fifteen to be elected by inhabitants in vestry rated at 75 *l.*; 15 by inhabitants rated to the amount of 10 *l.* and at less than 75 *l.*	Six to vacate office every year.	To control the parish affairs.	
		Also— (1.) Churchwardens, overseers, and 10 substantial and discreet residents (partly in the land side, partly in the water side division of the parish).	To be elected by select vestrymen, five of each class.	One year	To make rates [to maintain, govern, and employ poor].	This parish is in the St. Olave Union.
CITY OF LONDON.						
St. Botolph, Bishopsgate	35 Geo. 3, c. lxi. 5 May 1795.	(1.) Past churchwardens, overseers of the preceding year, four common councilmen for the time being, and 21 inhabitants. (2.) Committee.	To be elected by the parish officers and inhabitants of vestry.	One year	To assist churchwardens and overseers in issuing orders and making regulations for the maintenance and employment of the poor.	This parish is in the East London Union.

Appendix, No. 14.

RETURNS from each PARISH and Extra-parochial PLACE within the METROPOLITAN AREA under the Jurisdiction of the METROPOLITAN BOARD of WORKS, of the ASSESSMENT upon which such PARISHES and PLACES were Assessed to the PROPERTY TAX, Schedule (A.), POLICE RATE, COUNTY RATE, and POOR'S RATE, for the Year ending Lady-day 1863.

PARISHES AND PLACES.	Amount of Assessment to Property Tax, Schedule (A).	Amount of Police Rate Assessment.	Amount of County Rate Assessment.	Poor's Rate Assessment.	
				Gross Rental.	Rateable Value.
	£.	£.	£. s.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
All Saints, Poplar	240,866	Included in Poor Rate.	184,548 –	256,050 – –	191,997 – (a)
Battersea	193,283	103,350	83,300 –	166,509 – –	123,621 – –
Bromley, St. Leonard, Middlesex	102,242	67,540	57,212 –	105,470 – –	67,875 – –
Charlton	38,122	35,605	35,000 –	46,039 – –	37,666 – –
Christ Church, Spitalfields	51,247	40,118	37,876 –	49,742 – –	41,552 – –
Clapham	123,150	113,864	107,000 –	122,224 – –	96,909 – –
Eltham	20,071	16,956	16,000 –	20,137 10 –	17,097 10 –
Greenwich	165,878	126,108	125,300 –	152,964 – –	128,790 – –
Hammersmith	112,871	81,147	77,804 –	114,771 – –	88,449 – –
Holy Trinity, Minories	3,946	(b)	(b)	7,521 – –	6,447 – –
Kidbrooke	–	11,208	8,600 –	10,508 – –	8,652 – –
Lee, Kent	52,114	1,403	38,930 –	47,452 10 –	38,233 – –
Lewisham, Kent	164,802	143,009	140,300 –	198,183 – (c)	151,367 – (c)
Liberty of the Rolls	15,915	–	–	21,365 – –	16,101 – –
Mile End New Town	16,978	15,397	13,132 –	26,275 – –	16,125 10 –
Mile End Old Town	234,480	165,379	162,388 –	220,361 – –	183,634 – –
Norton Folgate, Liberty of	28,043	8,108	8,108 –	9,205 – –	7,567 – –
Paddington	2,423,760	588,523	526,420 –	One-third in excess of rateable value	617,840 – (d)
Penge, Hamlet of	60,452	54,780	43,800 –	80,811 – –	60,806 – –
Putney (including Roehampton)	54,055	46,580	46,000 –	54,683 – –	35,860 – –
Rotherhithe	160,433	84,428	83,500 –	141,845 – –	99,113 – –
Saffron Hill, Hatton Garden, and Ely Rents, The Liberty of.	16,489	27,724	27,184 –	34,040 – –	27,974 – –
St. Anne, Westminster	106,693	90,648	90,648 –	101,763 – –	92,512 – –
St. Clement Danes	147,302	1,531	1,418 10	90,500 – –	79,950 – –
St. George-in-the-East	143,477	108,783	167,468 (e)	198,414 – –	165,976 – –
St. George, Hanover-square	1,365,930	964,539	943,696 –	902,492 – –	820,468 – –
St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark	176,208	146,000	146,000 –	173,591 – –	138,873 – –
St. Giles-in-the-Fields, and St. George, Bloomsbury.	304,762	261,696	261,696 –	–	262,643 – –
St. James and St. John, Clerkenwell	361,895	(f)	(f)	275,702 – –	202,000 – –
St. James, Westminster	607,418	431,500	431,500 –	498,261 – –	438,208 – –
St. John, Hampstead	168,375	117,366	104,156 –	180,631 – –	143,863 – –
St. John, Southwark	55,626	48,201	48,000 –	63,642 – –	46,651 – –
St. John, Wapping	(g) 21,290	34,232	34,232 –	42,973 – –	34,016 – –
St. Katharine, Precinct of	194,466	15,649	17,328 –	19,862 – –	16,902 – –
St. Leonard, Shoreditch	1,165,865	–	–	483,446 – –	281,042 – –
St. Luke, Chelsea	290,740	239,917	234,248 –	329,271 – –	229,174 – –
St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington	555,105	501,131	501,131 –	520,790 – –	433,992 – –
St. Mary, Islington	882,735	–	548,572 –	824,978 – –	687,815 – –
St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey	181,139	151,039 January 1862. 154,538 August 1862.	150,000 –	200,931 – –	155,288 – –

(a) From rate made 15th January 1863.

(b) The overseers have no means whatever of giving the required information.

(c) In the last poor rate made 30th December 1862.

(d) Less 12,484 *l.* for empty assessments.

(e) This amount does not include the property situate within that portion of the Precinct of Wellclose which is within this parish, such precinct being rated in the Tower Liberties for county purposes.

(f) The information sought, as per these columns, the Vestry have no means of supplying.

(g) This amount is exclusive of the London Dock Company assessment, which we have no means of ascertaining.

PARISHES AND PLACES.	Amount of Assessment to Property Tax, Schedule (A).	Amount of Police Rate Assessment.	Amount of County Rate Assessment.	Poor's Rate Assessment.	
				Gross Rental.	Rateable Value.
	£.	£.	£. s.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
St. Mary, Newington - - (*a*)	310,246	—	—	—	—
St. Marylebone - - - -	1,237,954 (*b*)	983,149	976,820 –	1,063,898 – –	958,468 – –
St. Mary, Stratford, Bow - -	99,571	39,485	30,744 –	53,437 – –	39,715 – –
St. Mary, Whitechapel - - -	137,278	117,871	107,756 –	139,455 – –	122,804 10 –
St. Martin-in-the-Fields - - -	253,047	259,018	258,708 –	338,312 18 8	252,152 – –
St. Matthew, Bethnal Green - -	205,744	138,840	130,320 –	- - -	176,490 10 –
St. Nicholas, Deptford - - -	20,042	20,338	20,000 –	16,340 8 –	12,569 5 –
St. Olave, Southwark - - -	1,166,111	53,000	53,000 –	65,194 – –	53,684 – –
St. Pancras, Middlesex - - -	3,818,804	864,809	800,640 –	998,717 – –	896,922 – –
St. Paul, Shadwell - - - -	26,898	49,128	30,936 –	56,772 – –	43,633 – –
St. Saviour's, Southwark - -	172,172	- -	- -	89,224 – –	74,354 – –
St. Thomas's, Southwark - -	7,467	4,700	4,700 –	5,999 – –	4,778 – –
Streatham - - - - - -	43,594	- -	56,800 –	68,161 – –	58,086 – –
Tooting Graveney - - - -	38,199	9,969	9,800 –	11,097 8 –	8,251 9 6
Tower Without, Precinct of Old -	4,081	- -	- -	3,234 – –	2,872 – –
Wandsworth - - - - - -	80,603	58,000	58,000 –	75,571 – –	48,962 – –

1, Church-row, Newington Butts, 23 March 1864.

(*a*) Sir,—We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, requiring a Return pursuant to a Resolution of the House of Commons of the 11th ultimo, of Metropolitan Assessments, and to state that the same has been laid before the Vestry, and we are directed by the Vestry to acquaint you, that we are not in possession of any of the information sought by the Return, the Vestry not making any rates, their funds being raised by demands made upon the Governors and Guardians of the poor, who make all the parochial rates.*

That, as to the Property Tax, the same is under the control of the Commissioners, whose clerk is Mr. Lilley, of Trinity-street, Newington: we have no information whatever on the subject.

H. A. Bruce, Esq.

We are, &c.
(signed) *H. & J. Chester*, Clerks to the Vestry.

* (Application made to the Guardians of the poor also, but without effect.)

(*b*) This amount includes the profits of companies charged in Schedule (A.), upon the regulations of Schedule (D.), pursuant to a provision in the Income Tax Act.

CITY OF LONDON.

RETURN from the CITY OF LONDON of the ASSESSMENT upon which such City was Assessed to the PROPERTY TAX, Schedule (A.), Year 1862, ended 5th April 1863.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount of Assessment to Property Tax, Schedule (A.) - -	2,058,125	–	–
Amount of Duty Assessed - - - - - - - -	77,179	13	9

3, Guildhall Buildings,
21 March 1864.

Richard Till,
Clerk to Commissioners.

RETURN of the ASSESSMENT of the CONSOLIDATED RATE, 1862.

Consolidated Rate, January 1862:

	£.	s.	d.
Assessment - - - - - - - - - - -	1,319,188	–	–
Amount of Rate - - - - - - - - - -	50,440	1	8

Consolidated Rate, July 1862:

	£.	s.	d.
Assessment - - - - - - - - - - -	1,322,760	–	–
Amount of Rate - - - - - - - - - -	50,565	10	2

These Rates are made by orders, dated January and July in each year, and cover the six months succeeding thereto respectively; they therefore come the nearest to the period assigned in the Order of the Honourable the House of Commons (the year ending Lady-day 1863) which can be given.

Sewers Office, Guildhall,
16 March 1864.

Joseph Daw,
Principal Clerk

PARISHES from which no RETURNS have been made, notwithstanding repeated Applications.

Christ Church, St. Saviour's.
St. Anne, Limehouse.
St. Andrew, Holborn.
St. Botolph Without, Aldgate.
St. John, Hackney.
St. John Baptist, Savoy.
St. Luke, Middlesex.
St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster.
St. Mary, Lambeth.
St. Mary-le-Strand.
St. Mary, Newington.
St. Mary, Stoke Newington.
St. Paul, Covent Garden.
St. Paul, Deptford.
St. Sepulchre, Middlesex.
Fulham.
Plumstead.
Ratcliffe Hamlet.
Woolwich.

INDEX

TO THE

REPORTS

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
20 *May* 1867.

301—I.

Under

I N D E X

TO THE

REPORTS

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, &c.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
20 *May* 1867.

ANALYSIS OF INDEX.

ALPHABETICAL and CLASSIFIED LIST of the PRINCIPAL HEADINGS in the following INDEX, with the Paging at which they will respectively be found.

PAGE

Assessment or Rating - - - - - - 1

Central Board or Council - - - - - - 3
Corporation of London, 3 - - - - - 6
Metropolitan Board of Works - - - - 22
Municipal Corporations - - - - - 26

City of London - - - - - - - - - 4
Administration of Justice - - - - - 1
Assessment or Rating - - - - - - 1
Commissioners of Sewers - - - - - 5
Corporation of London - - - - - - 6
Crime - - - - - - - - - 9
Gas Supply - - - - - - - - 11
Improvements - - - - - - - 14
Metropolitan Board of Works, 2 - - - 23
Mortality - - - - - - - - - 26
Police - - - - - - - - - 28
Sanitary Arrangements - - - - - 32
Sewers - - - - - - - - - 34
Snow, Removal of - - - - - - 35
Streets (Naming and Numbering) - - - 35
Streets and Thoroughfares (Paving, Cleansing, &c.) 35
Water Supply - - - - - - - - 39

Coal Duty - - - - - - - - - 4

Commissioners of Sewers (City of London) - - - 5
Corporation of London - - - - - 6

Corporation of London:
1. *As to the Constitution of the Corporation* - 6
2. *Relative powers of the Corporation, and of the Metropolitan Board of Works* - - 6
3. *Question of extending the Corporation of London throughout the Metropolis* - - 6
4. *Objections to interference with the Distinctive Character of the Corporation* - 7
5. *Expenditure in regard to Refreshments and Public Entertainments* - - - - 7
6. *Expenditure in connection with Bills before Parliament* - - - - - - - 7
7. *Management of Trust Estates, and question of selling them* - - - - - - 7
8. *Large Expenditure by the Corporation, and prominent part taken in regard to Improvements* - - - - - - - - 7

Clerkenwell Improvements - - - - - 4
Coal Duty - - - - - - - - 4
Commissioners of Sewers - - - - - 5
Holborn Improvements - - - - - 14
Improvements - - - - - - - 14
Lodging Houses - - - - - - 19
Mansion House-street - - - - - 20
Police - - - - - - - - 28
Southwark, Borough of - - - - - 35
Thames Conservancy - - - - - - 36
Thames Embankment - - - - - - 36

PAGE

Crime (City of London) - - - - - - 9
Dwellings of the Lower Classes - - - - - 10
Lodging Houses - - - - - - 19
Election of Representatives - - - - - 10
Gas Supply - - - - - - - - 11
Holborn Improvements - - - - - - 14

Improvements:
1. *As to the Powers respectively of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and of the City Authorities in regard to Improvements* - 14
2. *Action of the Corporation and the Commissioners of Sewers in carrying out Improvements* - - - - - - 15
3. *Action of the Metropolitan Board in the matter of Improvements* - - - - 16
4. *Evidence in support of the London City Improvement Rates Bill* - - - 16
5. *Evidence opposed to the Improvement Bill of the Metropolitan Board* - - - 16
6. *Amount derived and derivable from the City Improvement Rate of 1 s. 6 d.* - - 17
7. *Increased Cost of Street Improvements in recent years* - - - - - - 17
8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - - - - - - - 17

Clerkenwell Improvements - - - - - 4
Coal Duty - - - - - - - - 4
Commissioners of Sewers - - - - - 5
Holborn Improvements - - - - - 14
Local Improvements - - - - - - 19
Poultry - - - - - - - - - 30
Sewers - - - - - - - - - 34
Sewers Rate (City) - - - - - - 35

Islington - - - - - - - - - - 17

Lodging Houses - - - - - - - - 19

Main Drainage - - - - - - - - 19
Acton - - - - - - - - - - 1

Metropolitan Board of Works:
1. *Generally as to the Constitution of the Board, and the number of Members* - 22
2. *As to the Representation of the City at the Board* - - - - - - - 23
3. *Question as to a direct Representation of Owners and Occupiers* - - - - 23
4. *Question of Government Representation* - 23
5. *As to the Mode of Election of Members* - 23
6. *As to the Conduct of Business* - - - 24

Metropolitan Board of Works—continued. PAGE

7. *Proceedings of the Board in the matter of Public Improvements* - - - - - 24
8. *Exceptions taken to the Improvement Rate Bill of the Board* - - - - - 24
9. *Particulars of Loans* - - - - - 24
10. *Explanations and Objections on the part of the Corporation of London relative to the powers of the Board* - - - - - 24
11. *Counter Statement by the Chairman of the Board; actual powers possessed under different Acts* - - - - - - 25
12. *Recommendations by the Committee relative to the Constitution of the Board, and the mode of Election* - - - - - - 25
13. *Recommendations for changing the Metropolitan Board into "The Municipal Council of London"* - - - - 26

Assessment or Rating - - - - - - - 1
Central Board or Council - - - - - - 3
Centralization - - - - - - - - 4
Commissioners of Sewers - - - - - - 5
Finsbury Park - - - - - - - - 11
Gas Supply - - - - - - - - 11
Improvements - - - - - - - - 14
Main Drainage - - - - - - - - 19
Mansion House-street - - - - - - 20
Pneumatic Dispatch Company - - - - - 28
Railways - - - - - - - - - 30
St. George the Martyr (Southwark) - - - 31
St. James's (Westminster) - - - - - 32
Streets (Naming and Numbering) - - - 35
Thames Conservancy - - - - - - - 36
Thames Embankment - - - - - - - 36

Municipal Corporations:

1. *Concurrence of Evidence in favour of dividing London into Municipalities* - - 26
2. *Suggestions as to the area of each Municipality* 26
3. *Expected Economy of Administration under the proposed System* - - - - - 27
4. *Expectation that a Superior Class of Men will serve in the Corporations* - - - 27
5. *Suggestions as to the Election and Constitution of the Municipal Bodies* - - - 27
6. *Objection to paid Members* - - - - 27
7. *Question of Provision being made for Entertainments, &c.* - - - - - - 27

Municipal Corporations—continued. PAGE

8. *Exception taken to the proposed Corporations* - - - - - - - - - 27
9. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - - - - - - - 27

Central Board of Council - - - - - 3
Corporation of London, 3 - - - - - - 6
Endowments - - - - - - - - - 11
Gladstone, Right Hon. W. E. - - - - - 12
Islington - - - - - - - - - 17
Public Markets - - - - - - - - 30
Quarter Sessions - - - - - - - 30
St. George's (Hanover Square) - - - - 31
Town Halls - - - - - - - - - 38

Police:

1. *Evidence relative to the efficiency and Cost of the City Police and Metropolitan Police respectively* - - - - - - - - 28
2. *Statistics submitted by Mr. Scott, as to the relative Efficiency of the Two Forces* - 29
3. *Question of an Amalgamation under one Control* - - - - - - - - - 29
4. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - - - - - - - - 29

Rates or Taxation - - - - - - - - 30

Assessment or Rating - - - - - - - 1
County Rate - - - - - - - - - 9
Exemptions from Rates - - - - - - 11
Hackney Carriages - - - - - - - 12
Holborn Improvements - - - - - - 14
Improvements - - - - - - - - - 14

Sanitary Arrangements (City of London) - - - 32
Dwellings of the Lower Classes - - - - 10
Mortality (City of London) - - - - 26
Shipping (Port of London) - - - - 35

Snow, Removal of - - - - - - - - - 35

Streets and Thoroughfares (Paving and Cleansing) - 35
Improvements - - - - - - - - 14

Vestries - - - - - - - - - - 38
Municipal Corporations - - - - - - 26
St. James's (Westminster) - - - - - 32

Water Supply - - - - - - - - - 39

I N D E X.

[*N.B.*—In this Index the Figures following the Names of the Witnesses refer to the Questions in the Evidence; those following *App.* to the Pages in the Appendix; and the Numerals following 1*st Rep.* and 2*nd Rep.* to the Pages in the First and Second Reports respectively.]

A.

ACTON (*Main Drainage Rate*). Comment upon the course taken by the Metropolitan Board of Works in regard to the taxation of Acton for the main drainage, *Bontems* 1864, 1865.

Administration of Justice (*City of London*). Sundry particulars relative to the administration of justice at the Mansion House and Guildhall, *Goodman* 859–874. 885–893——Practice as to the class of cases heard at the Mansion House and at Guildhall respectively, *ib.* 864–871. 882–884——General satisfaction given by the manner in which criminal charges are disposed of at the Mansion House, *ib.* 885–887——Average time occupied in dealing with the daily business at the Mansion House; regular attendance on the bench, *ib.* 889–893——Various matters dealt with at the quarter sessions in the City, *ib.* 894–898——Somewhat less business at Guildhall than at the Mansion House, *ib.* 899, 900.

See also *Commission of the Peace.* *Crime.*

Areas (*Local Administration*). See *Divisions and Sub-divisions of Metropolis.* *Municipal Corporations.*

Assessment or Rating. Explanation in connection with the increased assessment upon which the charges of the Metropolitan Board are now levied in the City; exception taken thereto as compared with the assessment for the rest of the Metropolis, *Scott* 449–454. 474–478. 502–508——Grounds for objection to the attempt now being made by the Metropolitan Board to levy their charges in the City upon the basis of the poor's rate; explanation hereon as to the assessment adopted by the Commissioners of Sewers, *Bedford* 539–566.

Return of the assessment of property in the Metropolitan District on the county rate basis, showing the rateable value in each parish and district, *App.* 171.

Return showing the rateable annual value in each parish and district in each of the years 1856–66, the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, and the total increase since 1856, *App.* 180–185.

Returns from each parish and extra-parochial place under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board, of the assessment upon which such parishes and places were assessed to the property tax, police rate, county rate, and poor's rate, for the year ending Lady-day 1863, *App.* 211, 212.

Return from the City of London of the assessment for the property tax in 1862–63; also, of the assessment for the Consolidated Rate in 1862, *App.* 212.

Conclusion arrived at by the Committee that the Metropolitan Board, when re-constituted, should be charged with the duty of adjusting the assessment of each district to a uniform standard throughout the metropolis, 2*nd Rep.* iv——Adequate machinery possessed by the Board for supervising the valuation of property for purposes of assessment, *ib.*

Resolution that the proposed Municipal Council should be invested with such powers as may be necessary to make a uniform assessment throughout the metropolis, 2*nd Rep.* vi——Also, that there should be an appeal from such assessment to the general sessions of the justices for the metropolis, *ib.*

B.

Bars and Street Obstructions. Statement relative to the chief bars and street obstructions in the metropolis, *App.* 195–198.

Recommendation by the Committee with a view to steps being taken by the proposed municipal council for the removal of bars and gates, 2*nd Rep.* vii.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Bedford, John Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a member of the Court of Common Council; also one of the Sewers Commissioners, 524-526——Increasing amount of the charges levied upon the City rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* before the surplus for improvements is set aside, 527-530——Inability of the Corporation to pay for improvements out of their corporate estates, 531-533. 547——Fairness of the proposal to levy an improvement rate of 6 *d.* upon owners, occupiers now paying about that amount for improvements, 534-538——Grounds for objecting to the attempt now being made by the Metropolitan Board to levy their charges in the City upon the basis of the poor's rate; explanation hereon as to the assessment adopted by the Commissioners of Sewers, 539-566.

[Second Examination.]—Explains the very ample powers of the Commissioners in acquiring property for carrying out improvements; absence of any obstacle in respect of the right of pre-emption, 2077-2085——Very heavy poor rate and other rates in witness's parish (St. Sepulchre), and in the poorer parts of the City, 2083-2088. 2149-2153.

Great inequality of the rating in the three unions in the City, an equalization of poor rates in the City being very desirable, 2088. 2092——Danger of extravagance in equalising the poor rates over the metropolis, 2093-2098——Great unpopularity of the Metropolitan Board in the City, as the increased taxation chiefly proceeds from them, 2095, 2096.

Opinion favourable to municipal corporations for the several Parliamentary boroughs, from whom a central committee should be formed for superintending metropolitan improvements, 2096-2128——Better class of persons likely to come forward to serve as mayors, aldermen, and common councilmen, than as vestrymen, 2112-2124——Approval of the municipalities having control of their own police, 2129-2137——Objection to any large provision out of the rates in providing entertainments for the municipal corporations, 2138-2140.

Very slight difference in the price of coal in the metropolis if the coal duty were removed, whilst the tax is a very good one for purposes of improvements, 2141-2148.

Bermondsey (*Rateable Annual Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the parish of Bermondsey; also, the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Bethnal Green (*Rateable Annual Value*). Statement of the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed St. Matthew's parish; also, the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Boards of Guardians. Contemplated maintenance of Boards of Guardians distinctly from the Municipal Corporations, *Medwin* 1060-1062.

Order of the Poor Law Board, dated 14 January 1867, together with sundry forms attached thereto with reference to the election of guardians, *App.* 188-192.

Advantages anticipated by the committee if the Board of Guardians in each district were merged in the Common Council recommended by the committee, *2nd Rep.* iv.

Bontems, John Francis. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is member of the Common Council of the Corporation of London, and one of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City; is also a vestryman of Islington, 1841——Statement in support of the conclusion that the chairman of the Metropolita Board of Works should, like all the other members, be the representative of a constituency, 1842-1844——Grounds for the opinion that the members of the Metropolitan Board should be elected directly by the ratepayers, 1844-1846——Difficulty experienced by the vestries in inducing their representatives at the Board to take action on their behalf, 1846.

Instance, in the matter of gas, of the backward action of the Metropolitan Board on the part of the vestries, and of the consumers, 1846-1850——Comment upon the small expenditure by the board upon improvements out of the general improvement rate, 1850-1859——Unduly large contributions by Islington to the general rate of the board, as compared with the small return expenditure on local improvements, 1859-1864.

Statement as to the Metropolitan Board being very slow in carrying out their works; illustrations hereon, 1864——Instances of the board refusing to carry out local works in the way desired by the localities, *ib.*——Comment upon the refusal of the board to contribute towards the widening of the Poultry on the north side, *ib.*——Comment also upon the course taken by the board in the taxation of Acton for the main drainage, 1864, 1865.

Increased cost of local management through the operation of the Metropolitan Board, 1866-1868——Effect of centralization generally in increasing local expense, 1868——Unduly large cost charged upon Islington for police; suggestion hereon that the police should be in charge of municipalities co-extensive with the Parliamentary boroughs, 1868-1879——Insufficient numbers of members at the Metropolitan Board for the proper

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Bontems, John Francis. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

proper transaction of business, 1879, 1880——Number of members comprised in the Common Council of the City, the work being done by a system of committees, 1881–1886.

Important defects requiring correction as regards the election and constitution of vestries, as in Islington, 1886–1900——Further statement in favour of the vestries and local boards being replaced by municipal corporations for large areas, 1889. 1907–1922——Transaction of business in Islington Vestry by means of committees, the vestry comprising 120 members, 1901–1904——Improvement if the vestries were empowered to elect permanent chairmen, irrespectively of the clergy, 1904–1906——Economy of administration if Islington were enlarged to the extent of the borough of Finsbury, for purposes of self-government, 1907–1922.

Various matters proposed to be placed under charge of the municipal corporations, 1922——Advantage if each municipality had a public market for provisions, &c., 1922–1927——Improved facilities as regards the administration of justice in Islington if included in a municipal corporation for Finsbury, 1927–1930——Convenience if there were some place for public meeting, or a town hall, in Islington, 1930, 1931——Probability of endowments being left to corporations for schools, &c., though no endowments are ever left to vestries, 1931.

Explanation relative to the amount spent for entertainments in the City; small expenditure in witness's case as compared with the gratuitous services rendered, 1931–1935.

Bridge House Estate. Grounds for objecting to the Corporation selling off the Bridge House Estates, with a view to saving the cost of management and paying off its debts, *Corrie* 806–810; *Medwin* 919–921.

Bridges. Statement as to the necessity of a new bridge lower down the river than London Bridge, *Haywood* 147, 148——Advantage if the bridges were made toll free, and were placed under the Metropolitan Board, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1510–1512.

Resolution of the committee that the proposed municipal council should take measures consistently with the rights of property to free the thoroughfares and bridges within the metropolis from tolls, gates, and bars, *2nd Rep.* vii.

Building Act. Doubt as to any great amount of power having been transferred to the Metropolitan Board, as regards the City by the Building Act of 1855, *Corrie* 669–676——Circumstance of the powers under the Building Act having been transferred to the board, *Scott* 1178, 1179. 1195, 1196——Defective character of the Building Act administered by the Metropolitan Board; want of some stringent provisions as regards drains and sanitary arrangements, *Rendle* 1255.

Resolution of the committee that the provisions of the Building Act should be amended so as to prevent the erection of dwellings injurious to health, *2nd Rep.* vii.

C

Camberwell. Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed Camberwell parish; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Cattle Market. Statement that the Corporation were in a sense forced by the Legislature into making a cattle market at Islington, *Rudkin* 1946–1955——Considerable loss experienced by the Corporation from the market, *ib.* 1956–1958.

Cattle Plague. Very efficient manner which the cattle plague was dealt with by the corporation, *Rudkin* 1959.

Central Board or Council:

Suggested limitation of the central board, under a system of municipalities, to two or three purposes, one of its chief duties being the maintenance of the arterial drainage of the metropolis, *Medwin* 956–963——Proposed constitution of the central board by the annual election of a certain proportion of members from the different municipalities, *ib.* 958, 959——Question further adverted to as to the expediency of a central body in charge of the main drainage, &c., *ib.* 1118–1121——Better representation of the localities at the central board by members elected annually, *ib.* 1136–1141.

Suggestion, that the local representatives at the central board should be elected upon the same voting paper that is proposed to be used for the election of members of the several districts, *Rendle* 1230–1232. 1266——Advantage of a central board for the control of the roads and pavements, and for preventing their being injured by the gas and water companies, *ib.* 1249–1255——Doubt whether the members of the central board should be paid; the chairman, however, should be paid out of metropolitan rates, *ib.* 1267–1271. 1278——Half the local boards and the central board should be re-elected yearly, *ib.* 1275.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Central Board or Council—continued.

Expediency of a central control in all metropolitan matters affecting the interests and convenience of the inhabitants and ratepayers at large, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1532–1539—— Necessity of a central body for the administration of matters which apply to the whole metropolis; doubt as to the best mode of election of such body, *Scott* 2242–2244.

See also *Corporation of London*, 3. *Metropolitan Board of Works. Municipal Corporations.*

Centralization. Desire of the vestries to repudiate their connection with the Metropolitan Board, as involving the principle of centralization in its worst form, rather than of local self-government, *Medwin* 943——Effect of centralization generally in increasing local expense, *Bontems* 1868.

Chamberlain of City of London. Circumstance of the Chamberlain of the City being elected annually by the Livery of London and not by the Corporation, *Scott* 1191–1194.

Chelsea (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the parish of Chelsea; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Cholera. Remarkable exemption of the City from the cholera of 1866, *Letheby* 1560, 1561——Very active and successful measures taken in the City with reference to the cholera epidemic of 1866; several Acts under which these measures were adopted, *ib.* 1563–1572. 1583–1589——Active course taken by the Commissioners of Sewers in shutting up all the City pumps and wells during the epidemic of 1866; advantage if fuller powers were given on this point to the Commissioners, and to local authorities generally, *ib.* 1587, 1588. 1600–1605. 1617. 1620. 1623, 1624.

Statement of the proportions of deaths from cholera in London and other cities and towns of Europe, *App.* 187.

City of London. Total of above two millions as the rateable value of premises in the City according to the last assessment of the Metropolitan Board, *Scott* 375——Details showing the enormous amount of trading profits in the City, compared with other parts of London; also the amount of customs duties of London and of other ports respectively, *ib.* 382–385.

Conclusion that as the City derives no benefit from the Metropolitan Board, it should not be called upon to pay towards maintaining the machinery of the Board, *Corrie* 610, 611——Circumstance of there being several Acts of Parliament under which the City is exempted from particular charges, *ib.* 617–619.

List of districts of the Metropolis arranged in their order, according to the relative number of houses of 13 *l.* rental, the result being that the City of London stands nearly 100 per cent. above the highest district of the metropolis, *App.* 156.

Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the City of London; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

See also *Administration of Justice. Assessment or Rating. Commissioners of Sewers. Corporation of London. Crime. Gas Supply. Improvements. Metropolitan Board of Works*, 2. *Mortality. Police. Sanitary Arrangements. Sewers. Snow, Removal of. Streets* (*Naming and Numbering*). *Streets and Thoroughfares* (*Paving, Cleansing, &c.*) *Water Supply.*

Clerkenwell Improvements. Reference to the completion by the Corporation of the works undertaken by the Clerkenwell Improvement Commissioners, *Scott* 336——Pecuniary liability taken upon itself by the City in the matter of the Clerkenwell Improvements, *Corrie* 658.

Clerkenwell (*Rateable Annual Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the parish of Clerkenwell; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Coal Duty. Statement showing the insufficiency of the 4 *d.* coal duty, for the completion of the Holborn improvements, as sanctioned by the Act of 1864, *Fry* 3–29——Inadequacy of an extension of the coal duty for a period of six years from 1862, for the completion of the improvements under the Act of 1864, *ib.* 24–29——Authority under the London City Improvement Rates Bill, to borrow a sum of 500,000 *l.* on the interest of the 4 *d.* coal duty, such duty being an increasing sum, *ib.* 73–81——The 4 *d.* coal duty is mortgaged till 1882, *Scott* 387——Grounds for objecting to a proposition, that if the Corporation obtain an extension of the coal duty for six years, which would yield 283,000 *l.*, they might raise by bonds the balance required for completing the Holborn improvements, *ib.* 428–448.

Circumstance

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Coal Duty—continued.

Circumstance of improvements by the Corporation having been largely made out of the coal tax, which is levied over the whole of the metropolis, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1345.

Very slight difference in the price of coal in the metropolis if the coal duty were removed, whilst the tax is a very good one for purposes of improvements, *Bedford* 2141–2148.

Resolution of the Committee, that as the coal and wine dues are collected for the benefit of the metropolis, the accounts of them should be audited by the auditor appointed to audit the accounts of the Metropolitan Board; *2nd Rep.* vii.

Collection of Rates. Economy and facility in the collection of rates, if there were but one local authority in each district for administering the Local Government Acts, and the relief of the poor; *2nd Rep.* iv.

Commission of the Peace (*Metropolis.*) Resolution of the Committee, that there should be a separate commission of the peace for the whole metropolis, as defined by the Metropolis Local Management Act, on which should be placed some of the principal persons connected by property with each district; *2nd Rep.* v——Also, that to ensure an efficient body of justices, the Commission should be revised and reissued at stated periods, *ib.*——Also, that the justices should hold general sessions for the metropolis, and should exercise the functions usually discharged by the sessions of cities having a separate quarter sessions, *ib.*——Also, that the justices of each district should hold district sessions for the purposes of determining all questions requiring the decision of justices, and arising in the district connected with the local government of the metropolis which are not of a general character; and to preserve uniformity, an appeal should be to the general sessions, *ib.* v, vi.

Commissioners of Sewers (*City of London*). Appointment of the Commissioners of Sewers by the corporation from their own body, *Haywood* 120–122——Several functions of the Commissioners of Sewers, and various demands upon their funds irrespectively of street improvements, *ib.* 145.

Information with reference to the constitution and powers of the City Commissioners of Sewers, the members of the Commission being nominated by the corporation, *Corrie* 728–748——Efficient performance of the duties of the Commissioners, their being no expenditure in their case for refreshments or entertainments, *Medwin* 1142–1150.

Witness explains the constitution and working of the Commission, there being about 100 members selected from the different wards, and the meetings being held weekly, *De Jersey* 1293–1309——Alteration lately in the plan of action of the Commission, it being now decided to work in future by means of three committees, whilst the Commissioners generally will meet only once a fortnight, *ib.* 1390–1308——Way in which complaints are brought before the Commission, and are dealt with, *ib.* 1309.

Several officers of the Commission, there being an officer of health, four inspectors of pavements, four sanitary inspectors, &c., *De Jersey* 1310, 1311——Very efficient working of the Commission, general satisfaction being given, so that no alteration in its constitution is desirable, *ib.* 1312–1316——Objection to the members of the Commission being elected directly by the ratepayers, instead of being chosen from the common council in the different wards, *ib.* 1314–1316——Various sanitary and other duties entrusted to the Commissioners, *ib.* 1317–1323.*

Reference to the increase in the number of Commissioners of Sewers: more efficient working if the Commission were not so numerous, *Haywood* 1826, 1827. 1833.

Witness explains the very ample powers of the Commissioners of Sewers in acquiring property for carrying out improvements: absence of any obstacle in respect of the right of pre-emption, *Bedford* 2077–2085——Explanation and defence of the compulsory powers exercised by the Commissioners of Sewers under Michael Angelo Taylor's Act, in acquiring property for widening and improving the streets, *Haywood* 161–178. 227–235——Satisfaction generally given by the manner in which the compulsory power of the Corporation as to the acquisition of property have been exercised, *Scott* 355, 356. 391.

Statement containing a summary of the powers and duties of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London, and the means by which the same are carried into effect, *App.* 199–201——Gross amount expended by the Commissioners in improvements in each of the years 1857–66, *ib.* 201.

See also *Corporation of London.*

Common Council (*City of London*). Number of members comprised in the Common Council of the City, the work being done by the system of committees, *Bontems* 1881–1886.——*See* also *Corporation of London.*

Common Councils (*Metropolis*). See *Municipal Corporations.*

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Corporation of London:

1. *As to the Constitution of the Corporation.*
2. *Relative Powers of the Corporation and of the Metropolitan Board of Works.*
3. *Question of Extending the Corporation of London throughout the Metropolis.*
4. *Objections to Interference with the distinctive character of the Corporation.*
5. *Expenditure in regard to Refreshments and Public Entertainments.*
6. *Expenditure in connection with Bills before Parliament.*
7. *Management of Trust Estates, and question of Selling them.*
8. *Large Expenditure by the Corporation, and prominent part taken in regard to Improvements.*

1. *As to the Constitution of the Corporation:*

Statement as to the actual representation of property in the City at the Corporation, *Scott* 459–467——Superiority of the constitution of the Corporation as compared with that of the vestries, *Medwin* 919. 973–978——Consideration of the question as to the extent of change introduced from time to time into the constitution of the Corporation of London since its original foundation: conclusion as to its not wanting reformation at the present time, *ib.* 1015–1047.

Considerable increase in the intelligence of the Corporation during the last ten years, *Scott* 1203——Exclusive regulations as to bankrupts or insolvents being members of the Corporation or of the Court of Common Council, *ib.* 2161–2169.

2. *Relative Powers of the Corporation and of the Metropolitan Board of Works:*

Power claimed by the Corporation to carry out new streets and improvements in the City, irrespectively of anything done by the Metropolitan Board, *Fry* 82–87——Statement showing that the City has at all times administered its own affairs within its own jurisdiction, including all matters of street improvements, *Scott* 320–330. 335.

Objections made against the gradual encroachments of the Metropolitan Board upon the privileges and powers of the Corporation as to the management of their own affairs, *Corrie* 568 *et seq.*; 677–680. 692. 722, 723——Several matters under the charge of the Corporation, such as the police, the courts of justice, &c., whilst there is no similar jurisdiction in the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 751–760. 805–822——Further examination relative to the extended jurisdiction of the Corporation as compared with that of the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 811–822.

Statement as to various private Acts since 1853 having continued to the Corporation of the City the powers possessed by them previously to the formation of the Metropolitan Board, *Corrie* 1960–1977——Several other Acts adverted to in support of the statement that the powers of the Corporation have been preserved against encroachment on the part of the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 1982–1986——Large powers of the Corporation and of the parishes outside the City in the matter of improvements further adverted to, *ib.* 2013–2028.

3. *Question of Extending the Corporation of London throughout the Metropolis:*

Consideration of the question whether an improved administration might not be obtained by extending the Corporation of London throughout the whole metropolis; apprehension lest so enormous a Corporation should be unworkable, *Corrie* 769–775——Suggestion, as regards the administration of the metropolis, that there should be a federation of municipalities, of which the City of London should be the centre and chief, *Haywood* 1799, 1800. 1808–1812.

4. *Objections to Interference with the distinctive character of the Corporation:*

Disapproval of the Corporation of London being regulated by the Municipal Corporations Act, though the separate municipalities might be regulated mainly by the Act, *Medwin* 1007–1015——Further evidence as to the propriety of preserving the distinctive character of the Corporation of London, and of excluding it from the operation of the Municipal Corporations Act, *ib.* 1122–1127——Reasons for preserving intact the separate constitution and functions of the Corporation of London, *Jones* 2278.

5. *Expenditure in regard to Refreshments and Public Entertainments:*

Explanation with reference to the expenditure by the Corporation in eating and drinking in connection with public entertainments; mistaken notions prevalent on this subject, *Corrie* 623–646——Information relative to the public entertainments given by the Corporation; considerable value and importance attached to these entertainments, whilst the expense does not fall upon the rates or taxes, *Medwin* 921–942——Explanation and defence of the practice in regard to the dinners of the members of the Corporation when engaged in the transaction of public business; very limited expense incurred on this score, *ib.* 919.

Statement

Corporation of London—continued.

5. *Expenditure in regard to Refreshments, &c.*—continued.

Statement in defence of the practice of expenditure out of the Corporation funds for refreshments at committee meetings of the members; economy of this plan as compared with payment for attendances, *Scott* 1197–1202. 1219——Explanation relative to the amount spent for entertainments in the City; small expenditure in witness's case as compared with the gratuitous services rendered, *Bontems* 1367. 1931–1935.

Exception taken to the Corporation of London, on the score of expenditure on other than public purposes, *Rendle* 1289, 1290.

6. *Expenditure in connection with Bills before Parliament:*

Explanation relative to the system of expenditure of the Parliamentary Committee of the Corporation in connection with Bills in Parliament; check to which this expenditure is subject, *Scott* 1205–1218.

7. *Management of Trust Estates, and question of Selling them:*

Disapproval of a sale of the trust estates of the Corporation, *Scott* 490–501. 509–512; *Corrie* 809, 810——Statement as to the very economical and efficient manner in which the trust property of the Corporation of London is managed, *Medwin* 917–919——Decided objection to the Corporation selling its trust estates, so as to save the expense and trouble of management, and pay off its debts; increasing value of these estates, *ib.* 919–921.

8. *Large Expenditure by the Corporation, and prominent part taken in regard to Improvements:*

Initiation by the City authorities of most improvements in the metropolis in the matter of sewerage, paving, removal of dust, &c., *Haywood* 1798.

List of improvements, public works and buildings undertaken by the Corporation since the year 1759, together with the cost in each case; total expenditure of 6,742,853 *l.*, *App.* 162.

See also *Clerkenwell Improvements.* *Coal Duty.* *Commissioners of Sewers.* *Holborn Improvements.* *Improvements.* *Lodging Houses.* *Mansion House Street.* *Police.* *Southwark, Borough of.* *Thames Conservancy.* *Thames Embankment.*

Corrie, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Remembrancer of the City of London; was one of the members of the Metropolitan Board of Works on its first creation in 1856; 567——Argument that the Act of 1855, constituting the Metropolitan Board, did not give them enlarged powers in the City, and that powers have since been claimed and exercised by the Board which were not originally vested in them, 568 *et seq.*——Summary of the sections of the Act of 1855, showing that with a few exceptions they do not refer to the City in any way, 569. 611——The main objects of the formation of the Metropolitan Board were in fact the supervision of the districts and vestries outside the City and the carrying out of the main drainage of the metropolis, 569.

Comment upon the claim of the Board to regulate the naming of the streets and the numbering of the houses in the City; expediency of this resting entirely with the City authorities, 569–575. 712–716——Increased powers of the Board from year to year, with the aid of those members of it who are in Parliament, 574——Statement as to the very limited powers conferred upon the Board by the Act of 1855 with reference to improvements; continued limitation of these powers at the present time, the Board having no authority to take a single house compulsorily, 576. 582 *et seq.*

Objection to the Board being granted the power of raising enormous rates for improvements, and afterwards determining how the money thus raised is to be spent, 576——Ultimate adoption of the main drainage scheme first proposed by the Metropolitan Board, the objection on the part of the Commissioner of Works having been removed, 577–581——Power of the Metropolitan Board to charge upon the metropolis the cost of any improvement carried out, with their sanction, by parishes or vestries under the authority of former Acts; exception taken to this power of the Board, 582–595.

Evidence as to the exemption of the Temple, Furnival's Inn, the Charter House, and several other places from the expenses of the Metropolitan Board and from the expenses of the Metropolitan Board and from local rates; unfairness of these exemptions, 594 602. 611–617——Inference that certain places having been exempted originally from the control or government of the Metropolitan Board, it was not intended to give to the Board such powers of improvement as are claimed by them, 595. 609, 610——Explanation with reference to the payment of City police rates by the Temple, 603–608.

Conclusion that as the City derives no benefit from the Metropolitan Board, it should not be called upon to pay towards maintaining the machinery of the Board, 610–611——Circumstance of there being several Acts of Parliament under which the City is exempted from particular charges, 617–619——Large sums spent by the Corporation in improvements both outside and within the City, 619–623. 660–664——Explanation with

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Corrie, William. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

with reference to the expenditure by the Corporation in eating and drinking in connection with public entertainments; mistaken notions prevalent on this subject, 623–646.

Statement as to the very liberal municipal franchise now being adopted in the City of London, 646–658. 749, 750——Responsibilities undertaken by the City, at the request of Government, in connection with the new market at Smithfield, 658, 659. 813——Pecuniary liability also taken upon itself by the City in the matter of the Clerkenwell improvements, 658——Reference to the Act of 1858 as having released the Metropolitan Board from the necessity of obtaining the consent of the First Commissioner for all works over 50,000 *l.*; 666, 667.

Doubt as to any great amount of power having been transferred to the Metropolitan Board, as regards the City, by the Building Act of 1855; 669–676——Objection further made against the gradual encroachments of the Board upon the privileges and powers of the Corporation as to the management of their own affairs, 677–680. 692. 722, 723——Expediency of all mere local improvements, for which the money is raised locally, being carried out by the local authorities, 680. 700——Argument that any great or general improvement in the metropolis should be submitted to Parliament, and that the Metropolitan Board should not be entrusted beforehand with the increased power of taxation which they are seeking for, 680 *et seq.*

Statement as to the inadequacy of the representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board, so that it is the more objectionable that the latter should be empowered to spend City money, 686–689. 698, 699. 724–727—— Grounds for the conclusion that there has been a constant effort on the part of the Board to obtain increased powers, 690, 691. 702 *et seq.*——Belief as to the Thames Embankment having been originally suggested by the City, 694, 695. 702–704——Prospect of the Board being extinguished unless it can get something else to do, 704. 765, 766.

Meddlesome character of the interference of the Board in the matter of naming the streets in the City; expediency of this power being withdrawn from them, 712–716. 722. 760–762——Compulsory powers of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City in regard to improvements, whereas the Metropolitan Board have no compulsory powers except for the main drainage, 717–719——Excellent manner in which the Newgate-street improvements have been carried out by the Commissioners of Sewers, 719——Comment upon the opposition of the Metropolitan Board to the Bill promoted by the Corporation for carrying out improvements within the City, by means of a City rate, 720, 721.

Representation of the City at the Board with reference chiefly to the main drainage, towards which the City had to contribute a considerable sum, 724–727——Information with reference to the constitution and powers of the City Commissioners of Sewers, the members of the Commission being nominated by the Corporation, 728–748——Several matters under the charge of the Corporation, such as the police, the courts of justice, &c., whilst there is no similar jurisdiction in the Metropolitan Board, 751–760. 805–822.

Question considered whether an improved administration might not be obtained by extending the Corporation of London throughout the metropolis; apprehension lest so enormous a corporation should be unworkable, 769–775——Examination upon the proposition for dividing the metropolis into several municipal corporations, with one general or central body: prospect of satisfactory administration if this scheme be carried out, 775–797——Opinion as to separate municipalities being able to manage their gas affairs satisfactorily, 780, 781——Conclusion as to the thoroughfares being properly managed under distinct Corporations, and as to snow storms being promptly and efficiently dealt with, 783–795.

Representation of the Corporation at the Conservancy Board, whereas the Metropolitan Board have failed in an effort to be represented, 799–805——Reference to the purchase of Southwark Bridge by the City: trust property available for the purpose, 805–808——Disapproval of a sale of the trust estates of the Corporation, 809, 810——Further examination relative to the extended jurisdiction of the Corporation, as compared with that of the Metropolitan Board, 811–822.

[Second Examination.]—Further statement as to various private Acts since 1853 having continued to the Corporation of the City the powers possessed by them previously to the formation of the Metropolitan Board, 1960. 1977——Particulars relative to the failure of the Metropolitan Board, to introduce a clause into the Pneumatic Dispatch Company's Bill of 1864, which clause would have empowered the Board to override the authority of the Corporation in the City, 1960–1975——Comment upon the unsuccessful attempt of the Board to nominate representatives on the Conservancy Board, 1977–1979.

Explanation relative to the powers and the successful action of the City with reference to the stamping of gas meters: reference hereon to the Act 22 & 23 Vict. c. 66; 1979–1982—— Several other Acts adverted to in support of the statement, that the powers of the Corporation have been preserved against encroachment on the part of the Metropolitan Board, 1982–1986.

Grounds for the conclusion that the Metropolitan Board have not the same powers as the Corporation, under the Act 57 Geo. 3, c. 29, in carrying out improvements, 1986–1988.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Corrie, William. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

1988. 2013–2021——Evidence in support of the view that the Corporation of London and the local authorities throughout the metropolis should have the power of making local improvements, and that such power should not rest with the Metropolitan Board, 1987–1993. 2000–2012. 2056–2058——Contemplated application to Parliament whenever any great works are to be carried on, it being then determined by whom they are to be executed, 1990–1993. 2000–2019. 2056–2058.

Expediency of its being left to the local authorities for Westminster and for the City, to carry out a street running from Westminster into the City, 1992. 2003–2007——Exceptional circumstances under which the Metropolitan Board were entrusted by Parliament with making not only the Thames Embankment, but the new street to the Mansion House, 1994–1999——Large powers of the Corporation and of the parishes outside the City in the matter of improvements further adverted to, 2013–2028.

Statement in further explanation of the powers respectively of the Corporation, of the vestries, and of the Metropolitan Board in regard to sewers, 2028——Belief further expressed as to the anxiety of the Board to obtain as much power as possible, 2032–2034——Grounds for the conclusion that the Improvement Rate Bill is being promoted by the Board, 2035–2052——Expediency of any improvement rate within the City being levied and expended by the City authorities, 2053, 2054.

Little, if any, credit due to the Metropolitan Board for having originated and planned large improvements, 2059–2064. 2068–2074——Difficulty of the Board, as at present constituted, in planning improvements so as to give general satisfaction, 2065–2067——Necessity, when witness was a member of the Board, of their plans being approved by the Commissioner of Works, 2076.

Cost of Local Government. Increased cost of local management through the operation of the Metropolitan Board, and through increased centralization, *Bontems* 1866–1868.

See also *Collection of Rates.* *Municipal Corporations*, 3.

County Rate. Obstacle to a county rate in the City for the purpose of street improvements, *Scott* 455–458——Comment upon the fact of ratepayers in the metropolis being called upon for county rates and for police rates, whilst they have no voice in the appointment of persons who make the rates, *Jones* 2271, 2272.

Crime (*City of London*). Statement as to the utter fallacy involved in certain calculations and statistics of Sir R. Mayne relative to the amount of crime in the City, as measured by the population; papers delivered in in support of this statement, *Scott* 826. 833–853.

Denial that witness ever assumed, as stated by Mr. Scott, that the crimes in the City were committed by the resident population, *Sir R. Mayne* 2294–2300——Explanation as to witness having taken the population and the number of houses as the basis of comparison between the City and the rest of the metropolis as to the amount of crime, *ib.* 2299–2303.

Statement in explanation of witness having omitted the crime of murder from his calculations in 1863 as to the proportion of crime within and without the City; denial that there was anything unfair in this omission, *Sir R. Mayne* 2305–2311——Admission that witness's calculation as to population were based upon the sleeping population of the City, *ib.* 2325. 2336.

Summary of business at the Mansion House in the years 1843 to 1863, *App.* 155——Return of the residences of persons proceeded against in the year ending 29th September 1864, distinguishing the number of those residing in and out of the City of London, *ib.* 156——Sundry statistics of crime in the City and metropolitan police districts respectively, *ib.* 157–159.

Crossings of Streets. Increased expense necessary in order for the authorities to keep the crossings clean, *Haywood* 1749–1751.

D.

De Jersey, Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is chairman of the Commissioners of City Sewers, 1291, 1292——Explains the constitution and working of the Commission, there being about 100 members selected from the different wards, and the meetings being held weekly, 1293–1309——Alteration lately in the plan of action of the Commission, it being now decided to work in future by means of three committees, whilst the Commissioners generally will meet only once a fortnight, 1300–1308.

Way in which complaints are brought before the Commission and are dealt with, 1309——Several officers of the Commission, there being an officer of health, four inspectors of pavements, four sanitary inspectors, &c., 1310, 1311——Very efficient working of the Commission, general satisfaction being given so that no alteration in its constitution is desirable, 1312–1316——Objection to the members of the Commission being elected directly by the ratepayers, instead of being chosen from the Common Council in the different wards, 1314–1316.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

De Jersey, Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Various sanitary and other duties entrusted to the Commissioners, 1317–1323——Expenditure by the Commissioners of 326,000 *l.* within the last ten years upon improvements in the City, 1323–1326——Witness hands in a copy of the accounts of the Commissioners, 1325.

Divisions and Sub-Divisions of the Metropolis. Grounds for concluding that a careful examination should be made into the existing divisions of the metropolis, for the purpose of local government, and that they should be re-adjusted to the wants of the present time, 2*nd Rep.* v——Great difficulty in the way of efficient self-government, owing to the accidental circumstance of the metropolis being situate where several counties meet, *ib.*——Conclusion as to the expediency of constituting the metropolis a county of itself, *ib.*

Resolution that the existing divisions of the metropolis for the purpose of local government under the Metropolis Local Management Act, are in some cases too small and inconvenient and should be re-adjusted, 2nd *Rep.* vi——Also that it is desirable that each district be divided into convenient wards, and that Her Majesty's Government should ascertain in what manner the metropolis can be best divided into districts and wards, *ib.* vii.

Dowgate Hill. Statement that the widening of Dowgate-hill has been owing entirely to the Commissioners of Sewers, *Haywood* 294–301.

Dust Removal. Advantage if the inhabitants in the City were required to have moveable dust bins, which they should bring down to the door for daily removal by the dustmen, *Haywood* 1769, 1770.

Dwellings of the Lower Classes. Entire insufficiency of the efforts from private sources in regard to improved dwellings for the lower classes, *Rendle* 1233–1235——Suggestion that compulsory powers be given to local authorities under certain conditions to purchase unfit dwellings, and to provide improved ones in their place, *ib.* 1236–1240——Immorality and ill-health caused in witness's parish by the wretched state of the habitations of the poorer classes, *ib.* 1238——Failure of the Labouring Classes Dwelling Houses Act of 1866, as regards the provision of dwellings by means of Government loans at a low rate of interest, *ib.* 1253.

Information relative to some dwellings erected by the Corporation of London in Clerkenwell for the poorer class in the City; great demand for these tenements, the financial result being equivalent to a net rental of about 4 per cent., *Waterlow* 1647–1657. 1662–1666——Erection of the buildings out of the City funds, the total cost being about 54,000 *l.*, *ib.* 1650–1652. 1682——Relative proportion between the wages of working men and rents paid for their dwellings, *ib.* 1683–1688.

See also *Lodging Houses.*

E.

Election of Representatives. Objections to the elections for the Metropolitan Board not being annual, *Medwin*, 947, 948——Advantage of an annual election, both of the members of the proposed municipalities and of the central board, *ib.* 959. 964–966——Better representation of the localities at the central board, by members elected annually, instead of triennially, *ib.* 1136–1141.

Statement strongly in favour of the election of vestrymen by polling papers; satisfactory result of the election of guardians on this plan in St. George's, Southwark, *Rendle* 1220–1229——Suggested direct election of the members of the Metropolitan Board at the same time that the members of the district boards are elected, by means of voting papers, *ib.* 1230–1232——Witness delivers in some papers in illustration of the mode of voting at elections of guardians in St. George's, Southwark, *ib.* 1245 and *App.* 165.

Further suggestion that the local representations at the central board should be elected upon the same voting paper that is used for the election of members of the district board, *Rendle* 1266——Half the local boards and the central board should be re-elected yearly, *ib.* 1277.

Grounds for objecting to an annual election of the members of the Metropolitan Board, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1419–1421——Opinion that the members of the Metropolitan Board should be elected directly by the ratepayers, *Bontems* 1844–1846——Statement in favour of annual and direct election of the proposed municipal corporations, *Scott* 2250–2256.

Order of the Poor Law Board, dated 14th January 1867, together with sundry forms attached thereto, with reference to the election of guardians, *App.* 188–192.

Resolution of the Committee that, in order to prevent repeated elections, all persons to be elected, both for the proposed municipal council and common councils, as well as persons elected to other offices, should be nominated and elected at the same time and in the same manner, 2nd *Rep.* vii——Also that the nomination should be made at a meeting of the inhabitants, either by ratepayers present or by writing, and the election should afterwards

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Election of Representatives—continued.

afterwards take place in the manner prescribed by the General Order of the Poor Law Board of 14 January 1867, *2nd Rep.* vii.

Endowments (*Municipal Corporations*). Probability of endowments being left to corporations for schools, &c., though no endowments are ever left to vestries, *Bontems* 1930.

Equalisation of Rates. Advantage of an equalisation of poor rates in the three City unions, *Bedford* 2088–2092——Danger of extravagance in equalising the poor rates over the metropolis, *ib.* 2093, 2094.

Exemptions from Rates. Evidence as to the exemption of the Temple, Furnival's Inn, the Charter House, and several other places, from the expenses of the Metropolitan Board, and from local rates; unfairness of these exemptions, *Corrie* 594–602. 611–617——Explanation with reference to the payment of City police rates by the Temple, *ib.* 603–608.

Statement relative to the exemption of the Inner Temple and other inns of court from rates for improvement, though it is highly expedient that they be compelled to pay their fair share of metropolitan taxation, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1540–1546.

Extra-Parochial Places. Return showing the rateable annual value on 1 January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed certain extra-parochial places; also the rateable annual value on 1 January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 184, 185.

F.

Finsbury Park. Very slow action of the Metropolitan Board in the matter of Finsbury Park, *Bontems* 1864——Comment upon the course adopted by the Board in order to reduce the cost of the park, *ib.*

Fry, Thomas Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Is Chairman of the Improvement Committee of the Corporation of London, 1, 2——Statement showing the insufficiency of the 4*d.* coal duty for the completion of the Holborn improvements, as sanctioned by the Act of 1864; 3–29——Estimate of the gross and net cost of the Holborn improvements, the latter amounting to 990,000*l.*, whilst the borrowing powers extend only to 600,000*l.*, 10–21——Inadequacy of an extension of the coal duty for a period of six years from 1882, for the completion of the improvements under the Act of 1864; 24–29.

Still further improvements, not yet sanctioned, but greatly required in connection with Holborn-valley and Newgate-street; want of a further extension of the coal duty for these improvements, 30–35——Various improvements greatly needed in the City, whilst the Corporation has no funds at its disposal for carrying them out, 36——Importance of widening the Poultry, if only there were funds available for the purpose, 37–39.

Examination to the effect that the Metropolitan Board of Works may call upon the City for money towards improvements, but have no power to levy rates within the City, 41–64——Various purposes for which the City improvement rate of 1*s.* 6*d.* is levied; increasing amount of this rate, 65–72——Authority under the proposed Bill to borrow a sum of 500,000*l.* on the interest of the 4*d.* coal duty, such duty being an increasing sum, 73–81.

Power claimed by the Corporation to carry out new streets and improvements in the City, irrespectively of anything done by the Metropolitan Board, 82–87——Question as to the feeling to be created among the City ratepayers by the levy of the 6*d.* rate proposed in the present Bill; explanation hereon that owners only are to be taxed, 88–100——Larger sums received by the Metropolitan Board from the City than they spend within the City, 101–104.

Grounds upon which the City claims to pay for and carry out its own improvements, 104——Causes of the great excess of cost of the Holborn improvements beyond the original estimate, 105,–107——Belief as to the accuracy of the estimate of 350,000*l.* for certain further improvements in connection with the Holborn Viaduct, 108–112——Increased settlement of cases of compensation by jury instead of by arbitration, 113–116.

G.

Gas Meters. Evidence relative to the objection made by the Metropolitan Board to the separate jurisdiction of the City of London in regard to the stamping of gas meters, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1342——Further statement on the subject of the stamping of gas meters having been handed over to the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 1440–1444.

Explanation relative to the powers and the successful action of the City with reference to the stamping of gas meters; reference hereon to the Act 22 & 23 Vict. c 66, *Corrie* 1979–1982.

Gas Supply. Approval of the scheme of the Metropolitan Board in the present Session for dealing with the gas question, *Corrie* 782——Circumstance of the City of London being the only part of the metropolis in which a really satisfactory examination of the gas supply has been carried out under the Act of 1860, *Letheby* 1598–1600——Several gas

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Gas Supply—continued.

companies supplying the City, the testing being favourable as regards illuminating power, but not always satisfactory as to purity, *Letheby* 1625–1630——Instance in the matter of gas of the backward action of the Metropolitan Board on the part of the vestries and of the consumers, *Bontems* 1846–1850.

Recommendation of the Committee that the proposed Municipal Council be entrusted with a supervision over the supply of gas, 2nd *Rep.* vi.

Gates (*Street Obstructions*). Statement relative to the several gates and street obstructions in the metropolis, *App.* 195–198.

General Post Office. Preparation by the Corporation of London of the ground upon which the General Post Office was erected, the ground for the enlargements being, however, cleared by Government, *Scott* 338–341.

Gladstone, Right Honourable W. E. Views of Mr. Gladstone in 1858, in favour of a larger application of the principle of municipal self-government to the metropolis, *Medwin* 1047, 1048.

Goodman, Samuel Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Was for many years chief clerk at the Mansion House and clerk of the peace for the City of London and Southwark, 858——Supplies sundry particulars relative to the administration of justice at the Mansion House and Guildhall, 859–874. 885–890——Practice as to the class of cases heard at the Mansion House and at Guildhall respectively, 864–871. 882–884——Active steps taken for the suppression of vagrancy and mendicancy in Cheapside, Cornhill, &c., 875–881.

General satisfaction given by the manner in which criminal charges are disposed of at the Mansion House, 885–887——Average time occupied in dealing with the daily business at the Mansion House; regular attendance on the bench, 889–893——Various matters dealt with at the quarter sessions in the City, 894–898——Somewhat less business at Guildhall than at the Mansion House, 899, 900——Onerous duties of the chief clerk at the Mansion House; large sums disbursed through his hands in the way of relief, 901–912.

Greenwich (*Rateable Annual Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed this district, also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

H.

Hackney Carriages. Comment upon the action of the Metropolitan Board in seeking to burden the ratepayers with a fourpenny improvement rate, instead of in laying proper claim to local revenues now appropriated to imperial purposes, such as the hackney carriage duty, *Medwin* 948, 949.

Hackney (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the district of Hackney, also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 182, 183.

Haywood, William Taylor. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Has been surveyor to the Commissioners of Sewers in the City for about 20 years, 117–119——Appointment of the Commissioners of Sewers by the Corporation from their own body, 120–122——Numerous and important improvements carried out by the Commissioners in the City; the compulsory powers under the Act 57 Geo. 3, being found most useful for the purpose, 121. 123–138——Very inadequate means at the disposal of the Commissioners as regards the improvements required; excess of expenditure at present to the extent of about 100,000 *l.* 137–146.

Produce of 112,500 *l.* a year by the City improvement rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, 143, 144——Several functions of the Commissioners of Sewers, and various demands upon their funds, irrespectively of streets improvements, 145——Statement as to the necessity of a new bridge lower down the river than London Bridge, 147, 148.

Considerable experience upon which Mr. Shaw and witness have arrived at the estimate of 350,000 *l.* as the cost of widening Newgate Street, and of effecting further improvements in connection with the Holborn Valley plans, 149–160——Immense increase in the value of property in the City and in the amounts claimed for compensation, so that the estimated cost of the Holborn Improvements has been greatly exceeded, 151–154.

Explanation and defence of the compulsory powers exercised by the Commissioners of Sewers under Michael Angelo Taylor's Act in acquiring property for widening and improving the streets, 161–178. 227–235——Main object of the Bill before the Committee, to supply the Commissioners with funds for carrying out improvements; no specific Parliamentary powers being required for such improvements, 181–186. 227–36——Probability of the Corporation being able to raise a million of money upon security of the

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Haywood, William Taylor. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

the proposed rate of 6 *d.*; doubt as to the mode of disposition of the rate, if obtained, 185–194. 221.

Dissent from the view that the thoroughfares of the metropolis would be more efficiently and economically administered and improved, if there were only one jurisdiction both within and without the City, 196–210——Explanation in connection with some differences between the Corporation and the Metropolitan Board relative to the mode of termination of the new street to the Mansion House, 211–226——Check in the hands of the City ratepayers in regard to the mode of carrying out of improvements by means of the proposed 6 *d.* rate, 237–239.

Approval by the Metropolitan Board of many of the street improvements now being carried out by the Corporation, 240, 241——Contribution by the Metropolitan Board of one-third of the expense of several City improvements, whilst those of a purely local character are carried out by the Corporation exclusively, 241–247——Statement as to the great delay in the completion by the Metropolitan Board of the new street to the Mansion House, 248–265. 303–306——Circumstance of a portion of the line of the new street to the Mansion House having been completed by the Corporation several years ago; inability of the Corporation to continue this improvement, 266–281.

Explanation as to the Corporation having acquired one house at the corner of Walbrook, but having done nothing towards widening Walbrook up to the Mansion House, 282–293. 302——Statement that the widening of Dowgate Hill has been owing entirely to the Commissioners of Sewers, 294–301——Payment hitherto of the cost of improvements out of the annual receipts from the consolidated rate; it is contemplated, however, to raise money by mortgage, so as to pay off the debt of 100,000 *l.*, 307–310——Expenditure, in recent years, of about 35,000 *l.* a year out of the consolidated rate in improvements, the outlay in 1866 having, however, amounted to 43,000 *l.*, 311–316.

[Second Examination.]—Explains the measures adopted in the City for clearing away the heavy fall of snow which took place at Christmas; utter impracticability of removing the whole of the snow as quickly as was to be desired, 1705 *et seq.* 1763–1766——Liability of the contractors in the City for the removal of snow immediately after it falls; large penalty inflicted on them for non-performance of their contract in regard to the heavy fall at Christmas, 1708–1710. 1733–1743.

Consideration of the measures advisable, generally, in order to clear the thoroughfares after snow storms; great difficulties to be overcome, 1713–1725——Obligation upon the occupiers of houses in the City, as well as in the metropolis generally, to clear away the snow from the footways; amended regulations suggested on this point, 1726–1732——Increase of from 8,000 *l.* to 23,000 *l.* a year in the cost of cleansing the streets and removing the dust in the City, 1744——Special care taken in the City to keep the streets clean; frequency of the contractors being fined in order to keep them up to their work, 1744–1749.

Several objections to keeping the streets exceedingly clean, 1748——Increased expense necessary in order for the authorities to keep the crossings clean, 1749–1751——Probability of the contractors in the City tendering in future at higher sums on account of the contingency of heavy falls of snow, 1756, 1757——Very great consumption of water in washing the streets in the City, there being great waste generally in the supply of water to the metropolis, 1758–1762.

Total of fifty miles of thoroughfares under charge of the Commissioners of Sewers, 1763——Objection to the inhabitants being empowered to summon the Commissioners before a magistrate in the event of snow not being removed immediately, 1767, 1768——Advantage if the inhabitants in the City were required to have movable dust-bins, which they should bring down to the door for daily removal by the dustman, 1769, 1770.

Obstacle to the adoption in London of the system in Paris for the cleansing of the streets, 1771, 1772——Exceedingly clean state and perfect condition in which the streets of Paris are kept, the cost however being enormous, 1773, 1774. 1792–1794——Increased difficulty in keeping the London streets clean on account of the humidity of the climate, 1775——Excellent manner in which the City streets are paved, whilst their condition generally is in advance of the streets in other parts of the metropolis, 1776–1784.

Doubt as to the expediency of any central control in the metropolis in the matter of paving and maintaining the streets, 1781–1786. 1795–1797——Respective advantages of paved and macadamised streets, 1790–1792——Initiation by the City authorities of most improvements in the metropolis in the matter of sewerage, paving, removal of dust, &c., 1798.

Suggestion, as regards the administration of the metropolis, that there should be a federation of municipalities, of which the City of London should be the centre and chief, 1799, 1800. 1808–1812——Approval of wooden pavements if kept properly gravelled, as in the City, 1801–1805——Considerable expense of wooden pavements; practice in the City of making the local inhabitants contribute to the expense, 1805–1807.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Haywood, William Taylor (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Advantage in the smaller Boards throughout the metropolis being superseded by municipalities; question hereon as to the mode of arriving at the area desirable to be administered by each municipal body, 1812–1822——Opinion that rateable value is the best basis for determining the boundaries of the separate municipalities, 1817–1822——Very little clashing between the Commissioners of Sewers in the City and the Metropolitan Board in respect of the power of the latter over the main sewers, 1823–1825.

Reference to the increase in the number of Commissioners of Sewers; more efficient working if the Commission were not so numerous, 1826, 1827. 1833——Advantage of large public bodies over small bodies as regards the prevention of jobbing, 1828–1830——Objection to very large bodies for the carrying out of works, 1831–1834——Absence of jobbing in the departments connected with the Corporation of London, 1835–1837——Course desirable as regards the paving of any street which is situated in two parishes or jurisdictions, 1838–1840.

Holborn Improvements. Statement showing the insufficiency of the 4 *d.* coal duty for the completion of the Holborn improvements, as sanctioned by the Act of 1864, *Fry* 3–29——Estimate of the gross and net cost of the Holborn improvements, the latter amounting to 990,000 *l.*, whilst the borrowing powers extend only to 600,000 *l.*, *ib.* 10–21——Inadequacy of an extension of the coal duty for a period of six years from 1882 for the completion of the improvements under the act of 1864, *ib.* 24–29——Still further improvements not yet sanctioned, but greatly required, in connection with the Holborn Valley and Newgate-street; want of a further extension of the coal duty for these improvements, *ib.* 30–35——Causes of the great excess of cost of the Holborn improvements beyond the original estimate, *ib.* 105–107——Belief as to the accuracy of the estimate of 350,000 *l.* for certain further improvements in connection with the Holborn Viaduct, *ib.* 108–112.

Considerable experience upon which Mr. Shaw and witness have arrived at the estimate of 350,000 *l.* as the cost of widening Newgate-street, and of effecting further improvements in connection with the Holborn Valley plans, *Haywood* 149–160——Immense increase in the value of property in the City, and in the amounts claimed for compensation, so that the estimated cost of the Holborn improvements has been greatly exceeded, *ib.* 151–154.

Examination as to the Corporation bringing in separate Bills for authorising improvements in connection with the Holborn Viaduct, and for obtaining funds, *Scott* 402–413. 419–424——Grounds for objecting to a proposition that if the Corporation obtain an extension of the coal duty for six years, which would yield 283,000 *l.*, they might raise by bonds the balance required for completing the Holborn improvements, *ib.* 428–448——Great importance of further street improvements consequent upon the construction of the Holborn Viaduct, *ib,* 442–448.

Examination showing that it is in the power of the Corporation to raise a much larger sum by means of the consolidated rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.*; doubt as to this being a practicable mode of raising funds for the Holborn improvements, *Scott* 468–489.

House Tax. Increased burden upon the owners and occupiers of small tenements, if liable in all cases to the house tax; explanation hereon as to the form of construction adopted in order to escape this tax, *Waterlow* 1691–1699.

I.

Improvement Rates Bill (Metropolitan Board). See *Improvements,* 5.

IMPROVEMENTS:

1. *As to the Powers respectively of the Metropolitan Board of Works and of the City Authorities, in regard to Improvements.*
2. *Action of the Corporation and the Commissioners of Sewers in carrying out Improvements.*
3. *Action of the Metropolitan Board in the matter of Improvements.*
4. *Evidence in support of the London City Improvement Rates Bill.*
5. *Evidence opposed to the Improvement Bill of the Metropolitan Board.*
6. *Amount derived and derivable from the City Improvement Rate of* 1 *s.* 6 *d.*
7. *Increased Cost of Street Improvements in recent years.*
8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *As to the Powers respectively of the Metropolitan Board of Works and of the City Authorities, in regard to Improvements:*

Examination to the effect that the Metropolitan Board of Works may call upon the City for money towards improvements, but have no power to levy rates within the city, *Fry,*

IMPROVEMENTS—continued.

1. *As to Powers respectively of the Metropolitan Board of Works, &c.*—continued.

Fry, 41-64——Power claimed by the Corporation to carry out new streets and improvements in the City, irrespectively of anything done by the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 82-87——Absence of authority in the Metropolitan Board to undertake City improvements unless specially authorised, 359. 373, 374.

Statement as to the very limited powers conferred upon the Metropolitan Board by the Act of 1855, with reference to improvements; continued limitation of these powers at the present time, the Board having no authority to take a single house compulsorily, *Corrie* 576–582——Power of the Metropolitan Board to charge upon the metropolis the cost of any improvement carried out with their sanction by parishes or vestries under the authority of former Acts; exception taken to this power of the Board, *ib.* 582–595——Inference that certain places having been exempted originally from the control or government of the Metropolitan Board, it was not intended to give to the Board such powers of improvement as are claimed by them, *ib.* 595. 609, 610.

Reference to the Act of 1858, as having released the Metropolitan Board from the necessity of obtaining the consent of the First Commissioner for all works over 50,000 *l.* *Corrie* 666, 667——Compulsory powers of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City in regard to the improvements, whereas the Metropolitan Board have no compulsory powers, except for the main drainage, *ib.* 717–719.

Exception taken to the statement of Mr. Corrie that the Board did not possess such powers in the matter of important improvements as are possessed by the Commissioners of Sewers in the City, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1342–1347——Relative powers of the Board and of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City, further considered; similar powers of the former as of the latter, so far as relates to improvements and the taking of houses for the purpose, under the Act 57 Geo. 3, *ib.* 1446–1455.

Grounds for the conclusion that the Metropolitan Board have not the same powers as the Corporation under the Act 57 Geo. 3, c. 29, in carrying out improvements, *Corrie* 1986–1988. 2013–2021——Evidence in support of the view that the Corporation of London and the local authorities throughout the metropolis should have the power of making local improvements, and that such power should not rest with the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 1987–1993. 2000–2012. 2056–2058.

Contemplated application to Parliament whenever any great works are to be carried out, it being then determined by whom they are to be executed, *Corrie* 1990–1993. 2000–2010. 2056–2058——Large powers of the Corporation and of the parishes outside the City, in the matter of improvements, further adverted to, *ib.* 2013-2028——Necessity, when witness was a member of the Metropolitan Board, of their plans being approved by the Commissioner of Works, *ib.* 2076.

Witness explains the very ample powers of the Commissioners of Sewers in acquiring property for carrying out improvements; absence of any obstacle in respect of the right of pre-emption, *Bedford* 2077–2085.

2. *Action of the Corporation and the Commissioness of Sewers in carrying out Improvements*:

Numerous and important improvements carried out by the Commissioners of Sewers in the City, the compulsory powers under the Act 57 Geo. 3, being found most useful for the purpose, *Haywood* 121. 123-138——Explanation and defence of the compulsory powers exercised by the Commissioners of Sewers under Michael Angelo Taylor's Act, in acquiring property for widening and improving the streets, *ib.* 161–178. 227–235——Approval by the Metropolitan Board of many of the street improvements now being carried out by the Corporation, *ib.* 240, 241——Payment hitherto of the cost of improvements out of the annual receipts from the consolidated rate; it is contemplated, however, to raise money by mortgage so as to pay off the debt of 100,000 *l.*, *ib.* 307–310——Expenditure in recent years of about 35,000 *l.* a year out of the consolidated rate in improvements, the outlay in 1866 having, however, amounted to 43,000 *l.*, *ib.* 311–316.

Statement showing that the City has at all times administered its own affairs within its own jurisdiction, including all matters of street improvements, *Scott* 320–330. 335——Expenditure by the City since the year 1759 of a total sum of more than 6,000,000 *l.* upon street improvements, *ib.* 331–333——Absence of complaint as to the manner in which the funds have been expended on public improvements, *ib.* 334——Satisfaction generally given by the manner in which the compulsory powers of the Corporation as to the acquisition of property have been exercised, *ib.* 355, 356. 391——Annual expenditure of from 30,000 *l.* to 40,000 *l.* upon improvements out of the consolidated rate, *ib.* 377, 378.

Large sums spent by the Corporation in improvements both outside and within the City, *Corrie* 619–623. 660–664——Expenditure by the Commissioners of Sewers of 326,000 *l.* within the last ten years upon improvements in the City, *De Jersey* 1323, 1324.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

IMPROVEMENTS—continued.

2. *Action of the Corporation and Commissioners of Sewers, &c.*—continued.

Examination in support of the statement that various important improvements carried out, irrespectively of the Metropolitan Board, were charged upon metropolitan funds, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1456-1466.

Prominent part taken by the City of London in the origination of improvements, *Haywood* 1798——Reference to a general plan of improvements in the City laid out some years ago by the Improvement Committee of the Corporation, *Scott* 2156-2159.

List of improvements, public works, and buildings undertaken by the Corporation since the year 1759, together with the cost in each case; total expenditure of 6,742,853 *l.*, *App.* 162.

Statement of the gross amount expended by the Commissioners of Sewers in improvements in each of the years 1857 to 1866, *App.* 201.

3. *Action of the Metropolitan Board in the Matter of Improvements:*

Larger sums received by the Metropolitan Board from the City than they spend within the City, *Fry* 101-104——Contribution by the Metropolitan Board of one-third of the expense of several City improvements, whilst those of a purely local character are carried out by the Corporation exclusively, *Haywood* 241-247.

Practice of the Board always to apply to Parliament in carrying out important improvements, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1342. 1447. 1454, 1455——Immense sum expended by the Board upon improvements within the City, out of metropolitan taxation, *ib.* 1345.

Comment upon the small expenditure by the Board upon improvements out of the general improvement rate, *Bontems* 1850-1859——Statement as to the Metropolitan Board being very slow in carrying out their works; illustrations hereon, *ib.* 1864.

Little, if any, credit due to the Metropolitan Board for having originated and planned large improvements, *Corrie* 2053-2064. 2068-2074——Difficulty of the Board, as at present constituted, in planning improvements so as to give general satisfaction, *ib.* 2065-2067.

4. *Evidence in support of the London City Improvement Rates Bill:*

Various improvements greatly needed in the City, whilst the Corporation has no funds at its disposal for carrying them out, *Fry* 36——Question as to the feeling to be created among the City ratepayers by the levy of the 6 *d.* rate proposed in the Bill; explanation hereon that owners only are to be taxed, *ib.* 88-100——Grounds upon which the City claims to pay for and carry out its own improvements, *ib.* 104.

Very inadequate means at the disposal of the Commissioners of Sewers as regards the improvements required; excess of expenditure at present to the extent of about 100,000 *l.* *Haywood* 137-146——Main object of the Bill before the Committee to supply the Commissioners with the funds for carrying out improvements, no specific Parliamentary powers being required for such improvements, *ib.* 181-186. 227-236——Probability of the Corporation being able to raise a million of money upon security of the proposed rate of 6 *d.*; doubt as to the mode of disposition of the rate, if obtained, *ib.* 185-194. 221——Check in the hands of the City ratepayers in regard to the mode of carrying out of improvements by means of the proposed 6 *d.* rate, *ib.* 237-239.

Practice generally for incorporated bodies to carry out all works within the corporate boundaries, *Scott* 337——Better fitness of the Corporation, on account of their local knowledge, than of the Metropolitan Board for dealing with street improvements in the City, *ib.* 358. 371, 372. 414——Conclusion as to the expediency of the power asked for by the Corporation in the present Bill to impose an improvement tax upon owners of property within the City, *ib.* 386 *et seq.*——Doubt whether the Corporation Bill was suggested before or after it was known that the Metropolitan Board intended to bring in a Bill for a similar purpose, *ib.* 395-401. 412. 425.

Grounds for objecting to the Corporation selling any portion of their landed estate for improvement purposes, *Scott* 490-501. 509-512; *Corrie* 809, 810.——Imposition of the consolidated rate upon occupiers whilst the rate now proposed is to be charged upon owners, many of whom are not touched at present, *Scott* 513-519——Inability of the Corporation to pay for improvements out of their corporate estates, *Bedford* 531-533. 547——Fairness of the proposal to levy an improvement rate of 6 *d.* upon owners, occupiers now paying about that amount for improvements, *ib.* 534-538.

Comment upon the opposition of the Metropolitan Board to the Bill promoted by the Corporation for carrying out improvements within the City by means of a city rate, *Corrie* 720, 721——Opinion that no central body could effect improvements in the City so well as the City authorities themselves, *Scott* 1190——Objection to very large bodies for the carrying out of works, *Haywood* 1831-1834——Expediency of any improvement rate within the City being levied and expended by the City authorities, *Corrie* 2053, 2054.

5. *Evidence*

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Improvements—continued.

5. *Evidence opposed to the Improvement Bill of the Metropolitan Board:*

Argument that any great or general improvement in the metropolis should be submitted to Parliament, and that the Metropolitan Board should not be entrusted beforehand with the increased power of taxation which they are seeking for, *Corrie* 680 *et seq.*——Strong and general opposition of the vestries and ratepayers against the Improvement Rate Bill of the Board, notwithstanding which the Board are endeavouring to carry the Bill, *Medwin* 943–947——Statement as to the attempt to obtain an improvement rate of 4 *d.* being inconsistent with certain evidence of the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board, *Bontems* 1833.

Grounds for the conclusion that the Improvement Rate Bill is being promoted by the Board, *Corrie* 2035–2052——Part taken by witness in raising an opposition in his parish to the Bill of the Metropolitan Board for imposing a fourpenny improvement rate, *Jones* 2269.

Paper submitted by Mr. Medwin showing the numerous places that have petitioned against the Metropolitan Improvement Rate Bill, *App.* 164.

6. *Amount derived and derivable from the City Improvement Rate of* 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

Various purposes for which the City improvement rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* is levied; increasing amount of this rate, *Fry* 65–72——Produce of 112,500 *l.* a year by the City improvement rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, *Haywood* 143, 144——Statement that the 1 *s.* 6 *d.* improvement tax is absorbed for a few years to come, *Scott* 387. 426——Examination showing that it is in the power of the Corporation to raise a much larger sum by means of the consolidated rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.*; doubt as to this being a practicable mode of raising funds for the Holborn improvements, *ib.* 468–489——Increasing amount of the charges levied upon the city rate of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* before the surplus for improvements is set aside, *Bedford* 527–530.

7. *Increased Cost of Street Improvements in recent Years:*

Great increase of late years in the value of property required in carrying out improvements through the increased amount claimed for compensation, *Fry* 105–107; *Haywood* 151–154——Increased settlement of cases of compensation by jury, instead of by arbitration, *Fry* 113–116.

8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Resolution that pending the general inquiry referred to the Committee it is inexpedient to empower the Corporation of London or any local authority within the metropolitan districts, except the Metropolitan Board of Works, to levy a rate upon the owners of property for the purpose of making improvements, 1*st Rep.* iii.

Resolution of the Committee that the allegations contained in the preamble of the London City Improvement Rates Bill had not been proved to their satisfaction, 1*st Rep.* iii.

Conclusion further arrived at by the Committee that the power sought for by the Corporation should not be exercised by them or any local authority, except for the purpose of raising one-half the cost of such permanent improvements of a local character as may be sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works, when the interests of the owners of property shall be represented on that Board, 2*nd Rep.* iv. vii.

Resolution that the power conferred on local authorities in the metropolis to improve existing thoroughfares, and to take property compulsorily for that purpose, under the 57th Geo. 3, c. 29, should be expressly extended to the proposed municipal council, and such defects in the Act as interfere with the due exercise of that power should be amended, 2*nd Rep.* vi.

See also *Clerkenwell Improvements. Coal Duty. Commissioners of Sewers. Holborn Improvements. Local Improvements. Poultry. Sewers. Sewers Rate (City).*

Islington. Unduly large contributions by Islington to the general rate of the Metropolitan Board as compared with the small return expenditure on local improvements, *Bontems* 1859–1864——Unduly large cost charged upon Islington for police; suggestion hereon that the police should be in charge of municipalities co-extensive with the Parliamentary boroughs, *ib.* 1868–1879.

Transaction of business in Islington Vestry by means of committees, the vestry comprising 120 members, *Bontems* 1901–1904——Economy of administration if Islington were enlarged to the extent of the borough of Finsbury for purposes of self government, *ib.* 1907–1922——Improved facilities as regards the administration of justice in Islington if included in a municipal corporation for Finsbury, *ib.* 1927–1930——Convenience if there were some place for public meeting, or a town hall, in Islington, *ib.* 1930, 1931

Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed St. Mary's parish; also, the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

J.

Jobbing. Advantage of large public bodies over small bodies as regards the prevention of jobbing, *Haywood* 1828–1830——Absence of jobbing in the departments connected with the Corporation of London, *ib.* 1835–1837.

Jones, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a vestryman of the Strand Union; complains of the inadequate power of the citizens, under the vestry system, to protect themselves against excessive local taxation, 2257-2273. 2277——Part taken by witness in raising an opposition in his parish to the Bill of the Metropolitan Board for imposing a four-penny improvement rate, 2269——Complaint as to the very limited extent to which Somerset House contributes to the rates in the Strand parish; expected remedy of this if the matter could be taken up by a municipality instead of by the vestry, 2269–2271. 2279–2286.

Comment upon the fact of ratepayers being called upon for county rates and for police rates, whilst they have no voice in the appointment of the persons who make the rate, 2271, 2272——Advantage of municipalities in the metropolis as a means of ascertaining the most fit men for Parliamentary candidates, 2273–2277——Approval of the municipalities being conterminous with the Parliamentary boroughs, 2278——Reasons for preserving intact the separate constitution and functions of the Corporation of London, *ib.*

K.

Kensington (Rateable Value). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property, upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the parish of Kensington; also, the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

L.

Lambeth (Rateable Value). Statement of the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed Lambeth; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Lea, River. Approval of some control in the Thames Conservancy Board over the River Lea Trustees, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1518–1521——Explanation with reference to storm overflows from the northern main sewer being passed into the River Lea above a tidal lock, *ib.* 1522–1526.

Letheby, Henry, M. B. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is medical officer of health under the City Commissioners of Sewers, his duty being to inspect and report upon the sanitary condition of the City, 1548–1552——Statement showing the great increase in the duties of witness since 1856, the first year of his appointment, 1554, 1555——Total of about 5,000 houses in the City at the present time which require the immediate attention of witness and of the Inspectors of Nuisances, 1555–1557——Great improvement in the sanitary condition of the City during the last ten or twelve years, owing to the great increase of supervision by the Commissioners of Sewers, 1558–1574.

Very low rate of mortality in the City as compared with other places; tables submitted in illustration of this, 1559–1561. 1575–1581——Very full powers exercised by the Commissioners of Sewers by the Sanitary Act of 1866, for the regulation of the City in matters of health, 1560. 1568–1570. 1590. 1592——Remarkable exemption of the City from the Cholera of 1866; 1560, 1561—Supply of water to the City by the New River and East London Companies, 1562——Very active and successful measures taken in the City with reference to the cholera epidemic of 1866; several Acts under which these measures were adopted, 1563–1572. 1583–1589.

Powers possessed by the Commissioners of Sewers in the City over and above those possessed by other local bodies in sanitary matters, 1571–1573. 1582——Special powers of the Commissioners in regard to the supervision of common lodging-houses, 1573——High character borne by the City of London throughout the Continent as regards its sanitary arrangements, 1574——Active course taken by the Commissioners of Sewers in shutting up all the City pumps and wells during the epidemic of 1866; advantage if fuller powers were given on this point to the Commissioners and to local authorities generally, 1587, 1588. 1601–1605. 1617–1620. 1623, 1624.

Regular supervision exercised by the City Commissioners, under the Sanitary Act of 1857, over the shipping between the Tower and London Bridge; important improvements thus effected in the ventilation and cleansing of the vessels, 1590–1597——Circumstance

of

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Letheby, Henry, M.B. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

of the City of London being the only part of the metropolis in which a really satisfactory examination of the gas supply has been carried out under the Act of 1860 ; 1598–1600.

Great improvement effected in the City within the last ten years in the prevention of overcrowding in lodging-houses, 1606–1608——Data as to population upon which witness's calculations of the death-rate in the City are based, 1609–1614——Statement showing the peculiarly crowded state of the City of London ; belief that there is no place in the world so densely populated, 1614–1616. 1631–1635——Successful measures carried out in the City for abolishing the nuisance arising from smoke, 1621, 1622.

Several gas companies supplying the City, the testing being favourable as regards illuminating power, but not always satisfactory as to purity, 1625–1630——Good and ample supply of water to the City at the present time, though it becomes insufficient through the defective appliances for distribution in the houses, 1636–1640——Approval of a constant supply of water by the companies if the distributing apparatus were in proper condition, 1641, 1642. 1644——Utter impracticability of a constant supply until the appliances for distribution are put into a proper condition by the landlords, 1642. 1644—— Sufficiency of the existing powers in regard to the companies being called upon to provide a constant supply, 1643.

Loans (*Metropolitan Board*). Reference to a return showing the funds borrowed and the rate of interest paid by the late Commissioners of Sewers and the Metropolitan Board respectively, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1374——Circumstance of the Board having commenced operations with a large debt of the former Commissioners of Sewers hanging over them, *ib.*

Local Acts. Return of the Local Acts in force in the City and in the several parishes and districts throughout the metropolis, *App.* 202–210.

Recommendation of the Committee, that all local Acts, so far as may be necessary to carry out the principles embodied in the resolutions of the Committee, should be repealed, *2nd Rep.* vii.

Local or District Boards. Functions proposed to be discharged by the Local or District Boards, contemplated by witness, and by the Central Board respectively, *Rendle* 1264, 1265——For all general district purposes the local body is the proper authority for effectual supervision, *Heywood* 1834.

See also *Municipal Corporations. Vestries.*

Local Improvements. Expediency of all mere local improvements, for which the money is raised locally, being carried out by the local authorities, *Corrie* 680–700——Instances of the Metropolitan Board refusing to carry out local works in the way desired by the localities, *Bontems* 1864——Evidence in support of the view that the Corporation of London and the local authorities throughout the metropolis, should have the power of making local improvements, and that such power should not rest with the Metropolitan Board, *Corrie* 2012. 2056–2058.

Lodging Houses. Special powers of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City, in regard to the supervision of common lodging-houses, *Letheby* 1573——Great improvement effected in the City within the last ten years in the prevention of over-crowding in lodging-houses, *ib.* 1606–1608.

Recent conversion by the Corporation of some taverns near the Islington Cattle Market into lodging-houses for working people, at a cost of about 10,000*l.*, *Waterlow* 1658–1661——Enhanced value of lodging-houses when near the places where the men work, *ib.* 1667–1672——Particulars relative to some lodging-houses, built by a company, with which witness is connected, in Southwark, and several other localities; varying rents paid for these tenements whilst the local taxation is very unequal and oppressive, *ib.* 1668–1690.

Explanation relative to the cost, mode of construction, and rental of the lodging-houses, established by the Corporation at the Islington Cattle Market, *Rudkin* 1936–1946.

London City Improvement Rates Bill. See *Holborn Improvements. Improvements*, 4. 8.

London Gas Light and Coke Company. Petition by the company against the London City Improvement Rates Bill, *Ev.* 1.

M.

Main Drainage. Ultimate adoption of the main drainage scheme first proposed by the Metropolitan Board, the objection on the part of the Commissioner of Works having been removed, *Corrie* 577–581——Defence of the entertainment provided by the Board on the opening of the main drainage works, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1529–1531——The pro-

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Main Drainage—continued.

posed Central Board should administer the main drainage and other matters of a metropolitan character, *Scott* 2249.

Return showing the rateable annual value of each district or parish, as now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180–185.

Large increase in the annual produce of the main drainage rate, in consequence of the great increase in the rateable value of property, *2nd Rep.* iv——Suggestion by the Committee that the amount of the annual rate should be reduced, and that the period for which it is to be levied should be extended, *ib.* iv, v.

Resolution that it is desirable that the Crown should consider the expediency of allowing the amount of the yearly main drainage rate to be reduced, on the period for which it is to be levied being extended as long as may be requisite to discharge the main drainage debt and interest, *2nd Rep.* vi.

See also *Acton.*

Mansion House (*Chief Clerk*). Onerous duties of the chief clerk at the Mansion House; large sums disbursed through his hands in the way of relief, *Goodman* 901–912.

See also *Administration of Justice.*

Mansion House Street. Explanation in connection with some differences between the Corporation and the Metropolitan Board, relative to the mode of termination of the new street to the Mansion House, *Haywood* 211–226——Statement as to the great delay in the completion by the Metropolitan Board of the new street, *ib.* 248–265. 303–306——Circumstance of a portion of the line of the new street to the Mansion House having been completed by the Corporation several years ago; inability of the Corporation to continue this improvement, *ib.* 266–281——Circumstances under which Government offered to the Corporation the formation of Mansion House-street, the offer having been declined because sufficient funds were not provided, *Scott* 335. 342–344.

Statement showing the progress made with the new street from Blackfriars Bridge to the Mansion House; denial that there has been any want of activity in the matter on the part of the Metropolitan Board, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1477–1498. 1547.

Undue delay in the completion of the street, *Bontems* 1864——Statement showing that it was offered to the Corporation to make the new street from Blackfriars to the Mansion House; they had at the time no funds at their disposal, *Scott* 2160——Copy of letter from the First Commissioner of Works to the City Remembrancer, in February 1863, stating that the street to the Mansion House should properly be undertaken by the Corporation, if they could procure funds for the purpose, *App.* 163.

Marylebone (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed St. Marylebone: also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Mayne, Sir Richard, K.C.B. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Statement in detail in support of the representations made by witness in a certain paper, dated 1 June 1863, relative to the City and Metropolitan police, the accuracy of which paper has been questioned by Mr. Scott, 2289 *et seq.*——Calculations and statistics supplied by Mr. Purdy of the Poor Law Board as to the relative efficiency and cost of the City police and of the Metropolitan police, 2291, 2292——Denial that in his communications, addressed to the Home Secretary in 1863, it was the object of witness to make any attack upon the City police, 2292. 2318–2324.

Sundry details in explanation of the several items of cost of the City police and of the Metropolitan police; argument hereon as to the correctness of the calculations made by witness in 1863; 2292, 2293. 2327, 2328——Denial that witness ever assumed, as stated by Mr. Scott, that the crimes in the City were committed by the resident population, 2294–2300——Inference from the greater proportion of crime committed in the City, than in other districts of the metropolis, that this is owing to the less efficiency of the City police, 2294, 2295. 2297, 2298. 2314. 2331–2336.

Explanation as to witness having taken the population and the number of houses as the basis of comparison between the City and the rest of the metropolis, as to the amount of crime, 2299–2303——Denial that witness, as stated by Mr. Scott, made any imputation, in 1863, upon any member of the City police force, his argument being that the system is alone to blame, and that the smallness of the force necessarily renders it less efficient than the Metropolitan police, 2304. 2329, 2330. 2335–2341——Inaccuracy of the statement that the men in the City police are a better class, and of better character, than the Metropolitan police, 2304. 2330.

Statement in explanation of witness having omitted the crime of murder from his calculations, in 1863, as to the proportion of crime within and without the City; denial that there

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Mayne, Sir Richard, K.C.B. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

there was anything unfair in this omission, 2305–2311——Comment upon sundry further portions of the evidence of Mr. Scott, in which he professes to show the inaccuracy of witness's calculation, 2312–2317——Incorrectness of the statement that witness has ever attempted to obtain control of the City police; he is, however, strongly of opinion that the two forces should be amalgamated, 2314–2316. 2337–2339. 2359.

Several high authorities in favour of an amalgamatinn of the two forces, 2316, 2317——Grounds for the conclusion that there would be a saving of 20,000 *l.* a-year by the amalgamation, 2316, 2317——Explanation of the circumstances which led to witness's letter of 1st April 1863 to Sir George Grey; belief that witness gave a copy of the letter to Mr. Chadwick, 2318–2322——Admission that witness's calculations as to population were based upon the sleeping population of the City, 2325. 2326.

Reference to the information obtained through the Metropolitan police with reference to the Cornhill burglary, 2334. 2355–2358——Fewer men necessary for the City if a better system were introduced, 2340, 2341——Less burden upon the ratepayers in the City if the police were amalgamated with the metropolitan force, 2342, 2343——Inter-communication between the two forces whenever serious crimes are committed, so as to facilitate the apprehension of the offenders, 2344–2358.

Medwin, James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Bootmaker; is a vestryman of St. James's and a member of the Court of Common Council, 913–916——Considers that the vestry system, especially as taken in connection with the Metropolitan Board of Works, is on the whole a failure; grounds for this conclusion, 917. 919. 943 *et seq.*——Statement as to the very economical and efficient manner in which the trust property of the Corporation of London is managed, 917–919——Much more harmonious co-operation of the members of the Corporation than of vestrymen, 919——Great superiority of the Corporation over the vestries as regards the social position and the intelligence of its members; great improvement of the former in late years, whilst there has been a growing deterioration in the vestries, 919. 973–978.

Explanation and defence of the practice in regard to the dinners of the members of the Corporation when engaged in the transaction of public business; very limited expense incurred on this score, 919——Decided objection to the Corporation selling its trust estates, so as to save the expense and trouble of management, and pay off its debts; increasing value of these estates, 919–921——Information relative to the public entertainments given by the Corporation; considerable value and importance attached to these entertainments, whilst the expense does not fall upon the rates or taxes, 921–942.

Growing desire on the part of the inhabitants of the metropolis for the establishment of municipalities, 943——Desire of the vestries to repudiate their connection with the Metropolitan Board, as involving the principle of centralization in its worst form rather than of local self-government, 943——Strong and general opposition of the vestries and ratepayers against the Improvement Rate Bill of the Board, notwithstanding which, the Board are endeavouring to carry the Bill, 943–947——Instance, in the case of St. James's parish, of the antagonism existing between the vestries and their representatives at the Board, 947.

Objection to the elections for the Metropolitan Board not being annual, 947, 948——Comment upon the action of the Board in seeking to burden the ratepayers with a 4 *d.* improvement rate, instead of in laying proper claim to local revenues now appropriated to Imperial purposes, such as the hackney carriage duty, 948, 949——Suggestion that all carriages, railway waggons, &c., destroying the roads of the metropolis should be taxed for the maintenance of the roads, 949, 950——Inability of the members of the Board to attend satisfactorily to the enormous business of the Board, 950, 951——Inexpediency of the transfer of so much work to the Board by Government, the former being willing, apparently, to undertake all that may be offered them, 950.

Conclusion arrived at by witness that it is impossible properly to amend the present system of vestries and of the Metropolitan Board, and that it is essential to substitute a system of municipalities, 951 *et seq.*——Approval of the proposal for giving a municipality to every Parliamentary borough, 956——Suggested limitation of the Central Board, under a system of municipalities, to two or three purposes, one of its chief duties being the maintenance of the arterial drainage of the metropolis, 956–963.

Proposed constitution of the Central Board by the annual election of a certain proportion of members from the different municipalities, 958, 959——Advantage of an annual election both of the members of the municipalities and of the Central Board, 959. 964–966——Grounds for anticipating that men of higher position and greater intelligence would serve on the municipalities than on the vestries, 967–979. 983–988. 1095–1108——Expediency of some provision being made for the supply of refreshments at meetings of the municipal corporations, and for the giving of entertainments; examination hereon as to the source whence this expense should be defrayed, and as to the amount required for the purpose, 968–971. 987–1006. 1049–1059. 1077, 1078.

Less value attached to the office of vestryman since all the more important works and

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Medwin, James. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

improvements have been placed in charge of the Metropolitan Board, 977, 978——Probable advantage in the proposed Central Board having charge of traffic regulations throughout the metropolis, 981, 982——Causes of the defective composition of the vestries, such causes not operating in the case of municipalities, 983–988.

Objection to the Corporation of London being regulated by the Municipal Corporations Act, though the separate municipalities might be regulated mainly by the Act, 1007–1015——Consideration of the question as to the extent of change introduced from time to time into the constitution of the Corporation of London since its original foundation; conclusion as to its not wanting reformation at the present time, 1015–1047——Views of Mr. Gladstone in 1858 in favour of a larger application of the principle of municipal self-government to the metropolis, 1047, 1048.

Contemplated maintenance of Boards of guardians distinctly from the municipal corporations, 1060–1062——Further reference to the wide-spread feeling among the vestries in favour of municipalities, 1064–1066——Belief that many of those now returned to vestries would be returned to municipalities, together with many others of a superior class, 1067–1069. 1079, 1080. 1095–1106——Approval of the proposed municipal bodies in the metropolis being constituted like the municipalities generally, there being a mayor and alderman in each case, 1072–1076.

High position of some members of St. James's vestry; most of these, however, not attending save on exceptional occasions, 1081. 1082——Circumstance of Mr. Bidgood having, almost from the first, represented St. James's vestry at the Metropolitan Board, 1083–1087——Several occasions upon which the conduct of the Metropolitan Board has been called in question in the St. James's vestry, 1088–1090——Good management of some trust property under charge of the vestry, 1091–1094——Feeling of the vestry in favour of a municipality for Westminster, 1109, 1110——Belief that St. George's, Hanover-square, is also favourable to a system of municipalities, 1111–1117.

Question further adverted to as to the expediency of a central body in charge of the main drainage, &c., 1118–1121——Further evidence as to the propriety of preserving the distinctive character of the Corporation of London, and of excluding it from the operation of the Municipal Corporation Act, 1122–1127——Belief that municipalities would manage much more economically than vestries, 1128, 1129——Disapproval of a number of paid aldermen in each vestry, 1130, 1131.

Further reference to the desire of the vestries to be rid of the action of the Metropolitan Board, 1133–1135——Better representation of the localities at the Central Board by members elected annually instead of triennially, 1136–1141——Efficient performance of the duties of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City, there being no expenditure in their case for refreshments or entertainments, 1142–1150——Belief further expressed that no prejudice would be created by the municipalities giving entertainments, more especially as there would be little, if any, burden on the rates, 1151–1155. 1159–1162.

Metage Duties. Objection to the metage duties in the City being transferred, with the coal duties, to the municipal corporations, *Scott* 2236–2241.

Papers relating to compulsory metage; numerous petitions presented against the same in 1866, *App.* 193, 194.

Metropolitan Board of Works:

1. *Generally as to the Constitution of the Board, and the Number of Members.*
2. *As to the Representation of the City at the Board.*
3. *Question as to a direct Representation of Owners and Occupiers.*
4. *Question of Government Representation.*
5. *As to the Mode of Election of Members.*
6. *As to the Conduct of Business.*
7. *Proceedings of the Board in the Matter of Public Improvements.*
8. *Exceptions taken to the Improvement Rate Bill of the Board.*
9. *Particulars of Loans.*
10. *Explanations and Objections on ehe part of the Corporation of London relative to the Powers of the Board.*
11. *Counter-Statement by the Chairman of the Board; actual Powers Possessed under different Acts.*
12. *Recommendations by the Committee relative to the Constitution of the Board, and the Mode of Election.*
13. *Recommendation for changing the Metropolitan Board into the "Municipal Council of London."*

1. *Generally as to the Constitution of the Board, and the Number of Members:*

Opinion as regards the constitution of the Metropolitan Board that both rating and population should be taken into account, *Scott* 522, 523——Inability of the members of the Board to attend satisfactorily to the enormous business of the Board, *Medwin* 950,

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS—continued.

1. *Generally as to the Constitution of the Board, &c.*—continued.

951——Statement to the effect that the constitution of the Board is directly at variance with the recommendations of the Commissioners who reported on the subject in 1854, *Scott* 1163, 1164——Very unequal representation at the Board of the rateable value of the different districts, *ib.* 1163. 1171.

Reference to a certain paper as showing the efficient class of representatives at the Metropolitan Board, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1350——Approval of a revision of the number of members at the Board, though it may be objectionable to fix the representation of each district with reference to the rateable value, exclusively of population and the number of houses, *ib.* 1378–1385——Sufficiency of the present number of members for the efficient dispatch of the business of the Board, any material increase being objectionable, *ib.* 1396–1398.

Statement in support of the conclusion that the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works should, like all the other members, be the representative of a constituency, *Bontems* 1842–1844——Insufficient number of members at the Metropolitan Board for the proper transaction of business, *ib.* 1879–1881.

Return handed in by Mr. Scott, showing the fiscal power of each member of the Metropolitan Board, *App.* 160——Further return showing the rateability and population of each district represented at the Board, *ib.* 161.

List of the members of the Board in January 1867, showing the district represented by each, *App.* 170.

2. *As to the Representation of the City at the Board:*

Sundry details in connection with the population, rateable value, &c. of the City; argument thereon as to the entire inadequacy of the representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board, *Scott* 360–370. 381–385. 414–418. 520–523——Statement as to the inadequacy of the representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board, so that it is the more objectionable that the latter should be empowered to spend City money, *Corrie* 686–689. 698, 699. 724–727——Representation of the City at the Board with reference chiefly to the main drainage, towards which the City had to contribute a considerable sum, *ib.* 724–727.

Calculation showing that with the exception of Paddington the City is the worst represented district at the Metropolitan Board, *Scott* 1161——Belief that in settling originally the representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board the sleeping population only was taken into accouut, and that the rateable value was not properly considered, *ib.* 1165–1170——According to rateable value and population jointly, there should be six or seven representations of the City at the Board, *ib.* 1172, 1173. 1180–1189.

Calculation based upon the number of houses in the City and the rateable value, that the City as compared with other districts is very fairly represented at the Board, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1350-1356. 1378-1382——Undue representation of the City at the Board if there were six members for the City without any increase for other districts, *ib.* 1416-1418.

Illustration, by reference to Manchester and Salford, of the inadequate representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board, *Scott* 2256.

Return submitted by Mr. Scott, showing the rateability and population of each district represented at the Board, the existing proportion of members, the members which would be proportioned to rateability and population respectively, and to rateability and population collectively; also the members proportioned to a Board of ninety members, *App.* 161——Increased proportion of members for the City, according to this return, *ib.*

3. *Question as to a direct Representation of Owners and Occupiers:*

Considerable difficulty in the way of any direct representation of owners of property on the Metropolitan Board; advantage if this class were better represented, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1376, 1377. 1387–1395. 1406–1415——Further statement as to the difficulty of any arrangements for enabling owners of property to send a representative to the Board; non-objection by the Board to owners being represented, *ib.* 1427–1433——Doubt as to the advantage of occupiers sending representatives to the Board independantly of the vestries, *ib.* 1434–1436.

4. *Question of Government Representation:*

Doubt as to the expediency of the Office of Works being represented at the Board; approval however of Government representation if Government property were rateable for improvements, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1399–1405——Probable inducement to superior men to serve on the Board if appointed thereto directly by Government, *ib.* 1437, 1438.

5. *As to the Mode of Election of Members:*

Objection to the elections for the Metropolitan Board not being annual, *Medwin* 947, 848——Suggested direct election of the members of the Board at the same time that the

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS—continued.

5. *As to the Mode of Election of Members*—continued.

members of the district boards are elected, by means of voting papers, *Rendle* 1230–1232 1266——Grounds for objecting to an annual election of members of the Board, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1419–1421——Opinion that the members of the Metropolitan Board should be elected directly by the ratepayers, *Bontems* 1844–1846.

6. *As to the Conduct of Business:*

Practice of the Board to meet weekly, there being also special committees of the Board meeting frequently for the transaction of business; particulars thereon, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1363–1371——Large attendance of members at the weekly meetings, *ib.* 1370——Laborious duties fulfilled by the members without much dissatisfaction arising, though there is no remuneration, *ib.* 1371, 1372——Very slight expenditure in refreshments at the meetings of the Board, *ib.* 1373, 1374——Statement of the average attendance upon committees, *ib.* 1527, 1528.

7. *Proceedings of the Board in the Matter of Public Improvements:*

Larger sums received by the Metropolitan Board from the City than they spend within the City, *Fry* 101–104——Contribution by the Board of one-third of the expense of several City improvements, whilst those of a purely local character are carried out by the Corporation exclusively, *Haywood* 241–247.

Practice of the Board always to apply to Parliament in carrying out important improvements, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1342–1447. 1454, 1455——Immense sum expended by the Board upon improvements within the City out of Metropolitan taxation, *ib.* 1345.

Comment upon the small expenditure by the Board upon improvements out of the general improvement rate, *Bontems* 1850–1859——Statement as to the Board being very slow in carrying out their works; illustration hereon, *ib.* 1864——Little, if any, credit due to the Board for having originated and planned large improvements, *Corrie* 2053–2064. 2068-2074——Difficulty of the Board, as at present constituted, in planning improvements so as to give general satisfaction, *ib.* 2065–2067.

8. *Exceptions taken to the Improvement Rate Bill of the Board:*

Argument that any great or general improvement in the metropolis should be submitted to Parliament, and that the Metropolitan Board should not be entrusted beforehand with the increased power of taxation which they are seeking for, *Corrie* 680 *et seq.*——Strong and general opposition of the vestries and ratepayers against the Improvement Rate Bill, notwithstanding which the Board are endeavouring to carry the Bill, *Medwin* 943–947.

Statement as to the attempt to obtain an improvement rate of 4 *d.* being inconsistent with certain evidence of the chairman of the Metropolitan Board, *Bontems* 1833——Grounds for the conclusion that the Improvement Rate Bill is being promoted by the Board, *Corrie* 2035–2052——Part taken by witness in raising an opposition in his parish to the Bill of the Metropolitan Board for imposing a fourpenny improvement rate, *Jones* 2269.

Paper submitted by Mr. Medwin, showing the numerous places that have petitioned against the Metropolitan Improvement Rate Bill, *App.* 164.

9. *Particulars of Loans:*

Return, dated 15 March 1867, showing all monies owing at the formation of the Board, with the rates of interest thereon; repayment of all these with the exception of a sum of 84,000 *l.*, *App.* 178——Statement of the amounts borrowed by the Board since its formation, with the dates and rates of interest thereon, the purposes for which they were intended, the security given, the amounts paid off, and the amounts still owing, *ib.* 179.

10. *Explanations and Objections on the part of the Corporation of London relative to the Powers of the Board:*

Examination to the effect that the Metropolitan Board may call upon the City for money towards improvements, but have no power to levy rates within the City, *Fry* 41–64——Absence of authority in the Board to undertake City improvements unless specially authorised, *Scott* 359. 373, 374.

Argument that the Act of 1855 constituting the Metropolitan Board, did not give them enlarged powers in the City, and that powers have since been claimed and exercised by the Board which were not originally vested in them, *Corrie* 568 *et seq.* 677–680. 692. 722, 723——Summary of the sections of the Act of 1855, showing that, with a few exceptions, they do not refer to the City in any way, *ib.* 569. 611——The main objects of the formation of the Metropolitan Board were, in fact, the supervision of the districts and vestries outside the City, and the carrying out of the main drainage of the metropolis, *ib.* 569——Increased powers of the Board from year to year, with the aid of those members of it who are in Parliament, *ib.* 574.

Statement as to the very limited powers conferred upon the Metropolitan Board by the Act of 1855, with reference to improvements; continued limitation of these powers at the present

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS—continued.

10. *Explanations and Objections on the part of the Corporation, &c.*—continued.

present time, the Board having no authority to take a single house compulsorily, *Corrie* 576–582——Objections to the Board being granted the power of raising enormous rates for improvements, and afterwards determining how the money thus raised is to be spent, *ib.* 576.

Power of the Metropolitan Board to charge upon the metropolis the cost of any improvement carried out with their sanction by parishes or vestries under the authority of former Acts; exception taken to this power of the Board, *Corrie* 582–595——Inference, that certain places having been exempted originally from the control or government of the Board, it was not intended to give to the Board such powers of improvements as are claimed by them, *ib.* 595, 609, 610——Reference to the Act of 1858, as having released the Board from the necessity of obtaining the consent of the First Commissioner for all works over 50,000 *l. ib.* 666, 667.

Grounds for the conclusion, that there has been a constant effort on the part of the Board to obtain increased powers, *Corrie* 690, 691, 702 *et seq.*——Prospect of the Board being extinguished, unless it can get something else to do, *ib.* 704. 765, 766.

Grounds for the conclusion that the Metropolitan Board have not the same powers as the Corporation under the Act 57 Geo. 3, c. 29, in carrying out improvements, *Corrie* 717–719. 1986–1988. 2013–2021——Compulsory powers of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City in regard to improvements, whereas the Metropolitan Board have no compulsory powers, except for the main drainage, *ib.* 717–719.

Complaint by the vestries against the centralisation involved in the Metropolitan Board, *Medwin* 943——Inexpediency of the transfer of so much work to the Board by Government, the former being willing apparently to undertake all that may be offered them, *ib.* 950. ——Illustration of the enormous powers exercised by the several members of the Board, *Scott* 1163——Impression of the Corporation in 1855, that the Board was formed chiefly with reference to the main drainage; its constitution was not, therefore, opposed, *ib.* 1175–1177——Belief further expressed as to the anxiety of the Board to obtain as much power as possible, *Corrie* 2035–2052——Necessity when witness was a member of the Board of their plans being approved by the Commissioners of Works, *ib.* 2076.

11. *Counter-Statement by the Chairman of the Board; actual Powers possessed under different Acts:*

Evidence with a view to the refutation of the statement of Mr. Corrie, that the Metropolitan Board was established for temporary purposes, and had since been seeking powers which it was never contemplated should be entrusted to it, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1342—— Exceptions taken to the statement of Mr. Corrie that the Board did not profess such powers in the matter of important improvements as are professed by the Commissioners of Sewers in the City, *ib.* 1342–1347.

Increased powers given to the Board under various Acts, the activity and the immense expenditure of the Board on improvements having probably stirred the jealousy of the Corporation of London, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1356——Objects of the original establishment of the Board further adverted to, *ib.* 1445.

Relative powers of the Board and of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City further considered; similar powers of the former as of the latter, so far as relates to improvements and the taking of houses for the purpose under the Act 57 Geo. 3, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1446–1455——Opinion as to the extensive functions proper to be entrusted to the Metropolitan Board, including control in the matters of gas and water, the bridges, &c., *ib.* 1509–1512. 1532–1539.

List of the Acts of Parliament which have conferred powers on the Metropolitan Board, showing in each case the actual power conferred, *App.* 172–177.

12. *Recommendations by the Committee relative to the Constitution of the Board, and the Mode of Election:*

Resolution of the Committee that the owners of property in the metropolis should be represented on the Metropolitan Board by the justices of the metropolis, selecting from amongst the justices connected with the district a proportion of the members of the Board, *Second Rep.* vi——Also that in the event of the property occupied by the Crown being assessed for the rates levied by the Metropolitan Board for permanent improvements, which seems just and reasonable, the Crown should be at liberty to appoint two members to the Board, *ib.*——Also that one or more members of the Board should be elected, as at present by the governing body of each district, *ib.*——Also that there should be elected directly by the ratepayers in each district of the metropolis a portion of the members of the Metropolitan Board, *ib.*

Further resolution that the relative importance of each district, and the number of members connected with it on the Metropolitan Board, should be determined with regard to the number and rateable value of the houses and other property, and the population and area of each district, *Second Rep.* vi.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS—continued.

13. *Recommendations for changing the Metropolitan Board into "The Municipal Council of London":*

Resolution of the Committee that the powers and duties of the Metropolitan Board having been much enlarged since its first establishment, its name should be made more conformable to its present and future condition, and it should be called "The Municipal Council of London," *Second Rep.* vi——Recommendation that the President of the Council should be periodically nominated by the Board, and approved of by the Crown, *ib.*——Resolution that the municipal council should discharge all its executive duties by means of committees composed of a limited number of its members, subject to the review of the council, *ib.*

Recommendation that the municipal council should exercise the powers now possessed by the Metropolitan Board, and should also be entrusted with a supervision over the supply of water and gas to the metropolis, with the protection of the public interests in regard to railways, &c., and with such other functions as may be entrusted to the council from time to time by Parliament, *Second Rep.* vi.

See also *Assessment or Rating. Central Board or Council. Centralisation. Commissioners of Sewers. Finsbury Park. Gas Supply. Improvements. Main Drainage. Mansion House-street. Pneumatic Dispatch Company. Railways. St. George-the-Martyr (Southwark). St. James's (Westminster). Streets (Naming and Numbering). Thames Conservancy. Thames Embankment.*

Mortality (City of London). Very low rate of mortality in the City as compared with other places; tables submitted in illustration of this, *Letheby* 1559–1561. 1575–1580——Data as to population, upon which witness's calculations of the death-rate in the City are based, *ib.* 1609–1614.

Return of the total number of deaths in the City in the several years 1849-66, with the proportion of alvine disorders, *App.* 186——Comparison of death-rate per 1,000 of the population in the City of London and elsewhere, *ib.* 187.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS:

1. *Concurrence of Evidence in favour of dividing London into Municipalities.*
2. *Suggestions as to the Area of each Municipality.*
3. *Expected Economy of Administration under the proposed System.*
4. *Expectation that a Superior Class of Men will serve in the Corporations.*
5. *Suggestions as to the Election and Constitution of the Municipal Bodies.*
6. *Objection to Paid Members.*
7. *Question of Provision being made for Entertainments, &c.*
8. *Exception taken to the proposed Corporations.*
9. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *Concurrence of Evidence in favour of dividing London into Municipalities:*

Examination upon the proposition for dividing the metropolis into several municipal corporations, with one general or central body; prospect of satisfactory administration if this scheme be carried out, *Corrie* 775–777——Growing desire on the part of the inhabitants of the metropolis, and among the vestries, for the establishment of municipalities, *Medwin* 943. 1064–1066——Conclusion arrived at by witness that it is impossible properly to amend the present system of vestries and of the Metropolitan Board, and that it is essential to substitute a system of municipalities, *ib.* 951 *et seq.*

Advantage in the smaller boards throughout the metropolis being superseded by municipalities; question hereon as to the mode of arriving at the area desirable to be administered by each municipal body, *Haywood* 1812–1822.

Statement in favour of the vestries and local boards being replaced by municipal corporations for large areas, *Bontems* 1889. 1907–1922——Various matters proposed to be placed under charge of the municipal corporations, *ib.* 1922——Opinion favourable to municipal corporations for the several Parliamentary boroughs, from whom a central committee should be formed for superintending metropolitan improvements, *Bedford* 2096–2128.

Approval generally of the division of the metropolis into municipal corporations for the purpose of local self-government, *Scott* 2170. 2202–2205——Strong claim of the metropolis to the grant of municipal institutions, *ib.* 2202——Argument that if the municipal system is sound as applied to the provincial towns, it should be equally applied to the metropolis, *ib.* 2210——The Municipal Corporation Act of 1855 should in fact be applied to a large extent to London, *ib.* 2211.

2. *Suggestions as to the Area of each Municipality:*

Approval of the municipalities being conterminous with the Parliamentary boroughs, *Medwin* 956; *Bedford* 2096; *Jones* 2278——Opinion that rateable value is the best basis for determining the boundaries of the separate municipalities, *Haywood* 1817–1822.

Opinion in favour of ten districts or municipalities exclusive of the city; that is, as proposed by Mr. Beal, *Scott* 2202–2205——Great care necessary as regards the boundaries and

Municipal Corporations—continued.

2. *Suggestions as to the Area of each Municipality*—continued.

and areas of the several municipalities; suggestion hereon that they be conterminous, not only for Parliamentary and municipal representation, but for coal duty, collection, and police administration, *Scott* 2203–2209. 2213.

3. *Expected Economy of Administration under the proposed System:*

Belief that municipalities would manage much more economically than vestries, *Medwin* 1128, 1129.

4. *Expectation that a Superior Class of Men will serve in the Corporations:*

Grounds for anticipating that men of higher position and greater intelligence would serve on the municipalities than on the vestries, *Medwin* 967–979. 983–988. 1095–1108 ——Belief that many of those now returned to vestries would be returned to municipalities, together with many others of a superior class, *ib.* 1067–1069. 1079–1080. 1095–1106.

Better class of persons likely to come forward to serve as mayors, aldermen, and common councilmen than as vestrymen, *Bedford* 2112–2124——Expectation that men of considerable influence and position would serve upon municipal corporations, *Scott* 2212 ——Advantage of municipalities in the metropolis as a means of ascertaining the most fit men for Parliamentary candidates, *Jones* 2273–2277.

5. *Suggestion as to the Election and Constitution of the Municipal Bodies:*

Advantage of an annual election, both of the members of the municipalities, and of the Central Board, *Medwin* 959. 964–966——Approval of the proposed municipal bodies in the metropolis being constituted like the municipalities generally, there being a mayor and alderman in each case, *ib.* 1072–1076——Limit suggested with reference to the number of persons in each corporation, *Scott* 2249——Statement in favour of annual and direct election of the corporations, *ib.* 2250–2256.

6. *Objection to Paid Members:*

Disapproval of payment for attendances of members of the corporation of London, or of separate municipalities, *Medwin* 919. 970.

7. *Question of Provision being made for Entertainments, &c.:*

Expediency of some provision being made for the supply of refreshments at meetings of the municipal corporations, and for the giving of entertainments; examination hereon as to the source whence this expense should be defrayed, and as to the amount required for the purpose, *Medwin* 968–971. 987–1006. 1049–1059. 1078——Doubt as to much difficulty arising in regard to the funds for sustaining the dignity of the municipalities, *ib.* 1047–1059——Belief further expressed that no prejudice would be created by the municipalities giving entertainments, more especially as there would be little, if any, burden on the rates, *ib.* 1151–1155. 1159–1162.

Objection to any large provision out of the rates in providing entertainments for the municipal corporations, *Bedford* 2138–2140.

8. *Exception taken to the Proposed Corporations:*

Objection to the metropolis being divided into municipal corporations, with a mayor and alderman in each case, *Rendle* 1256.

9. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Resolution of the Committee that each district should be divided into convenient wards, and the members of each district governing authority should be elected directly by the ratepayers in each ward, *Second Rep.* vii——Also that the governing authority of each district should be called the "common council" of the district, *ib.*——Also that the common council should elect annually a chairman, and deputy chairman, *ib.*——Also that all the functions now exercised within the district by the vestry or local board should be vested in the common council, *ib.*——Also that the proceedings of the common council should be public, and the accounts of each year should be printed and delivered to each ratepayer, with a report of the year's administration, *ib.*

See also *Central Board or Council. Corporation of London*, 3. *Endowments. Gladstone, Right Hon. W. E. Islington. Public Markets. Quarter Sessions. St. George's (Hanover Square). Town Halls.*

Municipal Council of London. See *Central Board or Council. Metropolitan Board of Works*, 13.

Municipal Franchise. Statement as to the very liberal municipal franchise now being adopted in the City of London, *Corrie* 646–658. 749, 750.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

N.

Newgate-street. Excellent manner in which the Newgate-street Improvements have been carried out by the Commissioners of Sewers, *Corrie* 719——*See* also *Holborn Improvements.*

Newington (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed St. Mary Newington; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

O.

Occupiers. Doubt as to the advantage of occupiers sending a representative to the Metropolitan Board, independently of the vestries, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1434–1436.

Owners (*London City Improvement Rates Bill*). Conclusion of the Committee adverse to the proposed rate of 6 *d.* upon owners of property, *First Rep.* iii; *Second Rep.* iv. vii.

Owners (*Representation at Metropolitan Board*). Considerable difficulty in the way of any direct representation of owners of property on the Metropolitan Board; advantage if this class were better represented, *Sir T. Thwaites* 1376,1377. 1387–1395. 1406–1415——Expediency of owners of property taking more interest in the constitution of vestries and district boards, *ib.* 1376, 1377. 1391–1394. 1406.

Further statement as to the difficulty of any arrangement for enabling owners of property to send a representative to the Board; non-objection by the Board to owners being represented, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1427–1433.

P.

Paddington (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed Paddington; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Paid Members (*Central Board or Municipal Council*). Doubt whether the members of the Central Board should be paid; the chairman, however, should be paid out of the metropolitan rates, *Rendle* 1267–1271. 1278.

Paid Members (*Municipal Corporations*). Disapproval of a number of paid aldermen in each vestry or municipality of the metropolis, *Medwin* 1130, 1131.

Paving. See *Streets and Thoroughfares — Wooden Pavements.*

Pneumatic Dispatch Company. Particulars relative to the failure of the Metropolitan Board to introduce a clause into the Pneumatic Dispatch Company's Bill of 1864, which clause would have empowered the Board to over-ride the authority of the Corporation of the City, *Corrie* 1960–1975.

POLICE:

1. *Evidence relative to the Efficiency and Cost of the City Police and Metropolitan Police, respectively.*
2. *Statistics submitted by Mr. Scott as to the relative Efficiency of the Two Forces.*
3. *Question of an Amalgamation under one Control.*
4. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *Evidence relative to the Efficiency and Cost of the City Police and Metropolitan Police, respectively.*

Efficient management of the City police, *Corrie* 7791——On the part of the Corporation of London, witness submits a statement in detail, in refutation of certain evidence of Mr. Chadwick, and certain calculations of Sir Richard Mayne as to the comparative cost of the City police and the Metropolitan police, *Scott* 824–837——Inaccuracy of returns submitted to the Committee in 1866, as to the cost of the Metropolitan police, *ib.* 825, 826.

Inaccurate calculation and assumptions of Sir R. Mayne, in regard to the cost of the City police, with reference to the number of houses in the City; omission from this calculation of the important question of the value of the houses under the protection of the police, *Scott* 826–834——About equal cost per head of the men in the City police force, and in the Metropolitan force, the former being generally a better class of men, *ib.* 826.

Grounds for the conclusion that the City police is at least as efficient as the Metropolitan police; papers laid before the Committee on this subject, *Scott* 837–839——Explanation that the paper of Sir R. Mayne, quoted by Mr. Chadwick in 1866, was prepared in 1863, with a view to the transfer of the City police to the charge of the Commissioner of Metropolitan police; comment upon the use made of this paper by Mr.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

POLICE—continued.

1. *Evidence relative to the Efficiency and Cost of the City Police and Metropolitan Police, respectively*—continued.

Mr. Chadwick, *Scott* 840, 841. 854, 855——Absence of any attempt on the part of the corporation to call in question the efficiency of the Metropolitan police, *ib.* 856, 857.

Reference to the amount of control of the Court of Aldermen over the City police; entire efficiency of the latter further adverted to, *Scott* 2231–2234.

Witness explains that in disputing the accuracy of the figures and inferences of Sir Richard Mayne, he imputes nothing whatever against him personally, *Scott* 2360, 2361——Witness does not claim a better character for the City police, except in the sense of their being better paid, and being a better class of men, *ib.* 236.

Statement in detail in support of the representations made by witness in a certain paper, dated 1st June 1863, relative to the City and Metropolitan police, the accuracy of which paper has been questioned by Mr. Scott, *Sir R. Mayne* 2289 *et seq.*——Calculations and statistics supplied by Mr. Purdy of the Poor Law Board, as to the relative efficiency and cost of the City police and of the Metropolitan police, *ib.* 2292. 2318–2324.

Sundry details in explanation of the several items of cost of the City police and of the Metropolitan police; argument hereon as to the correctness of the calculations made by witness in 1863, *Sir R. Mayne* 2292, 2293. 2327, 2328——Inference from the greater proportion of crime committed in the City, than in other districts of the Metropolis, that this is owing to the less efficiency of the City police, *ib.* 2294, 2295. 2297, 2298. 2314–2331. 2336——Inaccuracy of the statement that the men in the City police are a better class and of better character than the Metropolitan police, *ib.* 2304. 2330.

Denial that witness, as stated by Mr. Scott, made any imputation in 1863 upon any member of the City police force, his argument being that the system is alone to blame, and that the smallness of the force necessarily renders it less efficient than the Metropolitan police, *Sir R. Mayne* 2304. 2329, 2330. 2335–2341——Comment upon sundry further patrons of the evidence of Mr. Scott, in which he professes to show the inaccuracy of witness's calculations, *ib.* 2312–2317.

Explanation of the circumstances which led to witness's letter of 1st April 1863, to Sir George Grey; belief that witness gave a copy of the letter to Mr. Chadwick, *Sir R. Mayne* 2318–2322——Reference to the information obtained through the metropolitan police with reference to the Cornhill burglary, *ib.* 2334, 2335–2358——Result of witness's calculations that every City policeman costs 13 *l.* 15 *s.* more than those of the metropolitan force, *ib.* 2342, 2343——Intercommunication between the two forces whenever serious crimes are committed, so as to facilitate the apprehension of the offenders, 2344–2358.

2. *Statistics submitted by Mr. Scott as to the relative Efficiency of the Two Forces:*

Summary of crimes of every description in the eight years from 1858 to 1865, comparing the same, in the metropolitan and City police districts, *App.* 157——Comparative efficiency of the metropolitan and City police forces, tested by offences summarily determined in the several years 1858–65, *ib.* 158——Tabular abstract of indictable offences in the several years 1858-65, showing the relative proportion of the police districts to their respective populations, the number of criminals in each district yearly, and the general and annual excess of criminals above the proportionate number, *ib.*——Table of disreputable and dangerous elements in the metropolitan police district, and in the City of London, for the eight years 1858 to 1865; *ib.* 159.

3. *Question of an Amalgamation under one control:*

Approval of the proposed municipalities having control of their own police, *Bedford* 2129-2137——Consideration of the mode of administration of the police within the several municipalities; belief that a unity of action might be endured which does not now take place, *Scott* 2215–2230. 2246–2248——Contemplated maintenance by the City of its present powers in regard to the police; advantage of other districts having the same control, *ib.* 2246–2248.

Incorrectness of the statement that witness has ever attempted to obtain control of the City police; he is, however, strongly of opinion that the two forces should be amalgamated, *Sir R. Mayne* 2314-2316. 2337-2339. 2359——Grounds for the conclusion that there would be a saving of 20,000 *l.* a year by the amalgamation, *ib.* 2316, 2317——Several high authorities in favour of an amalgamation of the two forces, *ib.*——Fewer men necessary for the City if a better system were introduced, *ib.* 2340, 2341——Less burden upon the ratepayers in the City if the police were amalgamated with the metropolitan force, *ib.* 2342, 2343.

4. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Resolution of the Committee that it is expedient that there should be one police force for the metropolis, but the Committee are of opinion that it should be a subject of further consideration under what control the police of the metropolis should be placed, *Second*

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Police—continued.

4. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee*—continued.

Rep. vii.——Also that should the charge of the police of the metropolis and of the rural districts within the present limits of the metropolitan police be deemed too extensive, it is expedient that it should be diminished by transferring the metropolitan police of the remoter districts to the police of those counties in which they are situate, where an efficient county police is established, *ib.*——*See* also *Islington.*

Poor Law Administration. Doubt as to its being advisable to transfer the management of the poor to the municipal authorities, *Bontems* 1914–1919.

Suggestions by the Committee as to the advantages to be derived from combining under one authority in each district the administration of the Local Government Acts and the relief of the poor, *Second Rep.* iv.

See also *Collection of Rates.*

Poplar (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the district of Poplar; also the rateable annual value on 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 182, 183.

Poultry. Importance of widening the Poultry, if only there were funds available for the purpose, *Fry* 37–39——Comment upon the refusal of the Metropolitan Board to contribute towards the widening of the Poultry on the north side, *Bontems* 1864.

Public Markets. Advantage if each of the proposed municipalities in London had a public market for provisions, &c., *Bontems* 1922–1927.

Q.

Quarter Sessions. Expediency of there being a court of quarter sessions for each of the proposed municipalities, *Scott* 2234, 2235.

R.

Railways. Importance of more efficient control in regard to railway legislation affecting the metropolis, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1532–1534.

Recommendation by the Committee that the proposed municipal council be entrusted with the protection of the public interests in regard to railways, *Second Rep.* vi.

Rateable Value. Return of the assessment of property in the metropolitan district on the county rate basis, showing the rateable value in each parish and district, *App.* 171.

Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property in the City of London, and the several parishes within the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board upon which the Board assessed the City of London and parishes; also the rateable annual value in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180–185.

Returns from each parish and extra-parochial place under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board of the assessment upon which such parishes and places were assessed to the property tax, police rate, and county rate for the year ending Lady-day 1863, *App.* 211, 212.

Rates or Taxation. Statement in illustration of the heavy pressure of local taxation upon working men in Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, and other poor districts as compared with the local taxation paid by the more wealthy classes in the west end, *Waterlow* 1680, 1681. 1690——Conclusion that taxation in the eastern districts of the metropolis has reached its limits, *ib.* 1700–1703.

Very heavy poor rate and other rates in witness's parish (St. Sepulchre) and in the poorer parts of the City, *Bedford* 2085–2088. 2149–2153——Great inequality of the rating in the three unions in the City, an equalisation of poor rates in the City being very desirable, *ib.* 2088–2092——Fear of extravagance in equalising the rates over the metropolis, *ib.* 2093, 2094——Great unpopularity of the Metropolitan Board in the City, as the increased taxation chiefly proceeds from them, *ib.* 2095, 2096.

See also *Assessment or Rating. County Rate. Exemptions from Rates. Hackney Carriages. Holborn Improvements. Improvements.*

Rating. See *Assessment or Rating.*

Rendle, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Statement strongly in favour of the election of vestrymen by polling papers; satisfactory result of the election of guardians on this plan in St. George's, Southwark, 1220–1229——Suggested direct election of the members

Rendle, William (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

members of the Metropolitan Board, at the same time that the members of the district boards are elected, by means of voting papers, 1230–1232.

Entire insufficiency of the efforts from private sources in regard to improved dwellings for the lower classes, 1233–1235——Suggestion that compulsory powers be given to local authorities, under certain conditions, to purchase unfit dwellings and to provide improved ones in their place, 1236–1240——Immorality and ill health caused in witness's parish by the wretched state of the habitations of the poorer classes, 1238.

Very defective operation of the system of vaccination under the local authorities; amendment suggested, 1241——Great difficulty in witness's parish in regard to the successful administration of the laws of health, owing to the want of unity between the vestry and the Board of Guardians; expediency of but one administration of such matters, 1242, 1243.

[Second Examination.]—Witness delivers in some papers in illustration of the mode of voting at elections of guardians in St. George's, Southwark, 1244——Further statement as to the want of harmonious action between the different local authorities in the parish, and as to the expediency of one body having the administration of sanitary matters, the poor law, &c., 1243–1248. 1262–1264——Advantage of a central board for the control of the roads and pavements, and for preventing their being injured by the gas and water companies, 1249–1254.

Defective character of the Building Acts administered by the Metropolitan Board; want of some stringent provisions as regards drains and sanitary arrangements, 1255——Failure of the Labouring Classes Dwelling Houses Act of 1866, as regards the provision of dwellings by means of Government loans at a low rate of interest, *ib.*——Illustration of the prejudicial effect of different bodies having power to open the pavements and lay pipes or mains, *ib.*

Objection to the metropolis being divided into municipal corporations, with a mayor and aldermen in each case, 1256——Unfit men elected as vestrymen under the present system, whilst under a system of voting-papers a much superior class would be appointed, 1257–1263——Functions proposed to be discharged by the local or district Boards contemplated by witness, and by the central Board respectively, 1264, 1265.

Further suggestions that the local representatives at the Central Board should be elected upon the same voting-paper that is used for the election of members of the District Board, 1266——Doubt whether the members of the Central Board should be paid: the chairman, however, should be paid out of the metropolitan rates, 1267–1271. 1278——Statement in favour of the gas and water companies being compelled to lay their pipes in subways, where these are provided, 1272–1276——Half the Local Boards and the Central Board should be re-elected yearly, 1277.

Frequent complaints in the vestry of St. George's, Southwark, as to the action of the Metropolitan Board, the feeling being general in the vestry that the Board might be improved, 1279–1288. 1290——Exception taken to the Corporation of London, on the score of expenditure on other than public purposes, 1289, 1290.

Repeal of Acts. Recommendation of the Committee that all local Acts, so far as may be necessary to carry out the principles embodied in the resolutions of the Committee, should be repealed, *2nd Rep.* vii.

Roads and Streets. See *Streets, &c.*

Rudkin, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Explanation relative to the cost, mode of construction, and rental of the lodging-houses established by the Corporation at the Islington Cattle Market, 1936–1946——Statement that the Corporation were in a sense forced by the Legislature into making the Cattle Market, 1946–1955——Considerable loss experienced by the Corporation from the market, 1956–1958——Very efficient manner in which the cattle plague was dealt with by the Corporation, 1959.

S.

St. George's, Hanover Square. Belief that St. George's, Hanover-square, is favourable to a system of municipalities, *Medwin* 1111–1117.

Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed this parish; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage, *App.* 180, 181.

St. George the Martyr (*Southwark*). Statement in strong approval of the plan adopted in this parish of electing the guardians by means of voting-papers; copy of voting-paper in illustration, *Rendle* 1220–1229, *and App.* 165——Statement as to the want of harmo-

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

St. George the Martyr (*Southwark*)—continued.

nious action between the different local authorities in the parish of St. George, Southwark, and as to the expediency of one body having the administration of sanitary matters, the poor law, &c., *Rendle* 1242, 1243. 1245-1248. 1262-1264——Frequent complaints in the vestry of St. George's, Southwark, as to the action of the Metropolitan Board, the feeling being general in the vestry that the Board might be improved, *ib.* 1279-1288. 1290.

Statement showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the parish; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

St. James's (*Westminster*). Instance, in the case of St. James's parish, of the antagonism existing between the vestries and their representatives at the Metropolitan Board, *Medwin* 947——Great difficulty experienced in getting suitable candidates for vestrymen, *ib.* 974——High position of some members of St. James's vestry, most of these, however, not attending, save on exceptional occasions, *ib.* 1081, 1082——Circumstance of Mr. Bidgood having, almost from the first, represented St. James's vestry at the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 1083-1087——Several occasions upon which the conduct of the Metropolitan Board has been called in question in the St. James's vestry, *ib.* 1088-1090——Good management of some trust property under charge of the vestry, *ib.* 1091-1095.

St. Pancras (*Rateable Value*). Return of the rateable annual value, on 1st January 1856, of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed St. Pancras, also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Sanitary Arrangements (*City of London*). Statement, showing the great increase in the duties of witness since 1856, the first year of his appointment, *Letheby* 1554, 1555——Total of about 5,000 houses in the city, at the present time, which require the immediate attention of witness, and of the Inspectors of Nuisances, *ib.* 1555-1557——Great improvement in the sanitary condition of the city during the last ten or twelve years, owing to the great increase of supervision by the Commissioners of Sewers, *ib.* 1558-1574.

Very full powers exercised by the Commissioners of Sewers under the Sanitary Act of 1866, for the regulation of the city in matters of health, *Letheby* 1560. 1568-1570. 1590. 1592——Powers possessed by the Commissioners of Sewers in the city over and above those possessed by other local bodies in sanitary matters, *ib.* 1570-1573. 1582——High character borne by the City of London throughout the Continent, as regards its sanitary arrangements, *ib.* 1574.

Active course taken by the Commissioners of Sewers in shutting up all the city pumps and wells during the epidemic of 1866; advantage if fuller powers were given on this point to the Commissioners and to local authorities generally, *Letheby* 1587. 1600-1605. 1617-1620. 1623, 1624.

Number of inspections of houses, and of orders issued for sanitary improvement in the City of London, in each of the last eleven years, *App.* 186.

See also *Dwellings of the Lower Classes.* *Mortality* (*City of London*). *Shipping.*

Sanitary Arrangements (*St. George's, Southwark*). Evidence as to the great difficulty in witness's parish in regard to the successful administration of the laws of health owing to the want of unity between the vestry and the Board of Guardians; expediency of but one administration of such matters, *Rendle* 1242, 1243. 1262-1264.

Scott, Benjamin. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Chamberlain of the City of London, 317, 318——Statement, showing that the city has at all times administered its own affairs within its own jurisdiction, including all matters of street improvements, 320-330. 335——Expenditure by the city since 1759, of a total sum of 6,000,000 *l.* upon street improvements, 331-333——Absence of complaint as to the manner in which the funds have been expended on public improvements, 334——Circumstances under which Government offered to the Corporation the formation of Mansion House-street, the offer having been declined because sufficient funds were not provided, 335. 342-344.

Reference to the completion by the Corporation of the works undertaken by the Clerkenwell Improvement Commissioners, 336——Practice, generally, for incorporated bodies to carry out all works within the corporate boundaries, 337——Preparation, by the Corporation of London, of the ground upon which the General Post Office was erected, the ground for the enlargement being, however, cleared by Government, 338-341——Statement as to the Corporation having originated the Thames Embankment scheme in 1842; 345-354.

Satisfaction, generally, given by the manner in which the compulsory powers of the Corporation, as to the acquisition of property have been exercised, 355, 356. 391——Better fitness of the Corporation, on account of their local knowledge, than of the Metropolitan Board, for dealing with street improvements in the City, 358. 371, 372. 414——Absence

Scott, Benjamin. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

——Absence of authority in the Board to undertake City improvements, unless specially authorised, 359. 373, 374.

Sundry details in connection with the population, rateable value, &c., of the City; argument thereon as to the entire inadequacy of the representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board, 360-370. 381-385. 414-418. 520-523——Total of above two millions as the rateable value of premises in the City, according to the last assessment of the Metropolitan Board, 375——Annual expenditure of from 30,000 *l.* to 40,000 *l.* upon improvements out of the consolidated rate, 377, 378——Details, showing the enormous amount of trading profits in the City, as compared with other parts of London; also the amount of Customs duties of London, and of other ports respectively, 382-385.

Conclusion as to the expediency of the power asked for by the Corporation in the present Bill to impose an improvement tax upon owners of property within the City, 386 *et seq.*——Statement that the 1*s.* 6*d.* improvement rate is absorbed for a few years to come, 387. 426——Obstacle to applying any portion of the sewers rate to improvements, 388. 515——Doubt whether the Corporation Bill was suggested before or after it was known that the Metropolitan Board intended to bring in a Bill for a similar purpose, 395-401. 412. 425——Examination as to the Corporation bringing in separate Bills for authorising improvements in connection with the Holborn Viaduct, and for obtaining funds, 402-413. 419-424.

Grounds for objecting to a proposition that if the Corporation obtain an extension of the coal duty for six years, which would yield 283,000 *l.*, they might raise by bonds the balance required for completing the Holborn improvement, 428-448——Great importance of further street improvements consequent upon the construction of the Holborn Viaduct, 442-448——Explanation in connection with the increased assessment upon which the charges of the Metropolitan Board are now levied in the City; exception taken thereto, as compared with the assessment for the rest of the metropolis, 449-454. 474-478. 502-508.

Obstacle to a county rate in the City for the purpose of street improvements, 455-458——Statement as to the actual representation of property in the City at the Corporation, 459-467——Examination showing that it is in the power of the Corporation to raise a much larger sum by means of the consolidated rate of 1 *s.* 6*d.*; doubt as to this being a practicable mode of raising funds for the Holborn improvements, 468-489.

Grounds for objecting to the Corporation selling any portion of their landed estate for improvement purposes, 490-501. 509-512——Imposition of the consolidated rate upon occupiers, whilst the rate now proposed is to be charged upon owners, many of whom are not touched at present, 513-519——Opinion as regards the constitution of the Metropolitan Board, that both rating and population should be taken into account, 522, 523.

[Second Examination.]—Statement in detail in refutation of certain evidence of Mr. Chadwick, and certain calculations of Sir Richard Mayne, as to the comparative cost of the City police and the Metropolitan police, 824-837——Inaccuracy of returns submitted to the Committee in 1866 as to the cost of the metropolitan police, 825, 826——About equal cost per head of the men in the City police force, and in the metropolitan force, the former being generally a better class of men, 829.

Statement as to the utter fallacy involved in certain calculations and statistics of Sir R. Mayne, relative to the amount of crime in the City as measured by the population; Papers delivered in in support of this statement, 826. 835-853——Inaccurate calculation and assumptions of Sir R. Mayne in regard to the cost of the City police, with reference to the number of houses in the City; omission from this calculation of the important question of the value of the houses under the protection of the police, 826-834.

Grounds for the conclusion that the City police is at least as efficient as the metropolitan police; papers laid before the Committee on this subject, 837-839——Explanation that the paper of Sir R. Mayne, quoted by Mr. Chadwick in 1866, was prepared in 1863 with a view to the transfer of the City police to the charge of the Commissioner of Metropolitan Police; comment upon the use made of this paper by Mr. Chadwick, 840, 841. 854, 855——Absence of any attempt on the part of the Corporation to call in question the efficiency of the metropolitan police, 856, 857.

[Third Examination.]—Calculation showing that with the exception of Paddington, the City is the worst represented district at the Metropolitan Board, 1163——Very unequal representation at the Board of the rateable value of the different districts, 1163. 1171——Illustration of the enormous fiscal powers exercised by the several members of the Board, 1163——Statement to the effect that the constitution of the Board is directly at variance with the recommendations of the Commissioners who reported on the subject in 1854; 1163, 1164.

Belief that in settling originally the representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board, the sleeping population only was taken into account, and that the rateable value was not properly considered, 1163-1170——Statement that according to rateable value and population jointly, there should be six or seven representatives of the City at the

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

Scott, Benjamin. (Analysis of his Evidence)—continued.

Board, 1172, 1173. 1180–1189 —— Impression of the Corporation in 1855 that the Board was formed chiefly with reference to the main drainage; its constitution was not therefore opposed, 1174–1177——Circumstance of the powers under the Building Act having been transferred to the Board, 1178, 1179. 1195, 1196.

Opinion that no central body could effect improvements in the City so well as the City authorities themselves, 1190——Circumstance of the Chamberlain of the City being elected annually by the Livery of London, and not by the Corporation, 1191–1194 —— Statement in defence of the practice of expenditure out of the Corporation funds for refreshments at committee meetings of the members; economy of this plan as compared with payment for attendances, 1197–1202. 1219——Considerable increase in the intelligence of the Corporation during the last ten years, 1203.

Explanation relative to the system of expenditure of the Parliamentary Committee of the Corporation in connection with Bills in Parliament; check to which this expenditure is subject, 1204–1218.

[Fourth Examination.]—Witness delivers in a paper containing a list of the various improvements carried out by the Corporation of London, 2154, 2155——Reference to a general plan of improvements in the City, laid out some years ago by the Improvement Committee, 2156–2159——Statement showing that it was offered to the Corporation to make the new street from Blackfriars to the Mansion House; they had at the time no funds at their disposal, 2160——Exclusive regulations as to bankrupts or insolvents being members of the Corporation, or of the Court of Common Council, &c., 2161–2169.

Approval generally of the division of the metropolis into municipal corporations for the purpose of local self-government, 2170. 2202–2205——Examination relative to the non-incorporation of the borough of Southwark by the City, as well as the position in which the former now stands towards the latter, 2171–2202——Strong claim of the metropolis to the grant of municipal institutions, 2202——Opinion in favour of ten districts or municipalities, exclusive of the City; that is, as proposed by Mr. Beal, 2203–2205.

Great care necessary as regards the boundaries and areas of the several municipalities: suggestion hereon that they be conterminous, not only for Parliamentary and municipal representation, but for coal-duty collection and police administration, 2205–2209. 2213 ——Argument, that if the municipal system is sound as applied to the provincial towns, it should be equally applied to the metropolis, 2210——The Municipal Corporation Act of 1855 should, in fact, be applied, to a large extent, to London, 2211——Expectation that men of considerable influence and position would serve upon the municipal corporations, 2212——Great convenience, as regards political gatherings of the people, if there were town halls in each municipality, 2213–2215.

Consideration of the mode of administration of the police within the several municipalities: belief that a unity of action might be ensured which does not now take place, 2215–2230. 2246–2248——Reference to the amount of control of the Court of Aldermen over the City police: entire efficiency of the latter, 2231–2234——Expediency of there being a court of quarter sessions for each municipality, 2234, 2235——Objection to the metage duties in the City being transferred with the coal duties to the municipal corporations, 2236–2241.

Necessity of a central body for the administration of matters which apply to the whole metropolis: doubt as to the best mode of election of such body, 2242–2244——Contemplated maintenance by the City of its present powers in regard to the police: advantage of other districts having the same control, 2246–2248——The central board should administer the main drainage and other matters of a metropolitan character, 2249—— Limit suggested with reference to the number of persons in each corporation, *ib.*—— Statement in favour of annual and direct election of the corporations, 2250–2256—— Illustration, by reference to Manchester and Salford, of the inadequate representation of the City at the Metropolitan Board of Works, 2256.

[Fifth Examination.]—Witness explains, that in disputing the accuracy of the figures and inferences of Sir Richard Mayne, he imputes nothing whatever against him personally, 2360, 2361.

Sewers. Statement in explanation of the powers respectively of the Corporation or the Commissioners of Sewers, of the Vestries, and of the Metropolitan Board, in regard to sewers, &c., *Corrie* 717–719. 2020——Inaccuracy of a certain statement, that the Metropolitan Board had no control over main sewers within the City, Sir *J. Thwaites* 1342——Circumstances under which the City is free from any obligation to appeal to the Board in regard to the formation of sewers within the City area, *ib.* 1345——Very little clashing between the Commissioners of Sewers in the City and the Metropolitan Board in respect of the power of the latter over the main sewers, *Haywood* 1823–1825.

Return of brick and pipe sewers sanctioned by the Metropolitan Board for execution by vestries and district boards in each of the years 1856–57 to 1865–66, *App.* 166–169.

See also *Commissioners of Sewers.*

Sewers Rate (*City*). Obstacle to applying any portion of the sewers rate to improvements, *Scott* 388. 515.

Shipping (*Port of London*). Regular supervision exercised by the City Commissioners of Sewers, under the Sanitary Act of 1857, over the shipping between the Tower and London Bridge: important improvements thus effected in the ventilation and cleansing of the vessels, *Letheby* 1590–1597.

Shoreditch (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed St. Leonard's parish; also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Smithfield Market. Responsibilities undertaken by the City at the request of Government, in connection with the new market at Smithfield, *Corrie* 658, 659. 813.

Smoke Nuisance. Successful measures carried out in the City for abolishing the nuisance arising from smoke, *Letheby* 1621, 1622.

Snow (*Removal of*). Conclusion as to the thoroughfares being properly managed under distinct corporations, and as to snow storms being promptly and efficiently dealt with, *Corrie* 783–795—— Witness explains the measures adopted in the City for clearing away the heavy fall of snow which took place at Christmas; utter impracticability of removing the whole of the snow as quickly as was to be desired, *Haywood* 1705 *et seq.*; 1763–1766 ——Liability of the contractors in the City for the removal of snow immediately after it falls; large penalty inflicted on them for non-performance of their contract in regard to the heavy fall at Christmas last, *ib.* 1708–1710. 1733–1743.

Consideration of the measures advisable generally in order to clear the thoroughfares after snow storms; great difficulties to be overcome, *Haywood* 1713–1725—— Obligation upon the occupiers of houses in the City, as well as in the metropolis generally, to clear away the snow from the footways; amended regulations suggested on this point, *ib.* 1726–1732—— Objections to the inhabitants being empowered to summon the Commissioners before a magistrate in the event of snow not being removed immediately, *ib.* 1767, 1768 —— Probability of the contractors in the City tendering in future at higher sums on account of the contingency of heavy falls of snow, *ib.* 1756, 1757.

Somerset House. Complaint as to the very limited extent to which Somerset House contributes to the rates in the Strand parish; expected remedy of this if the matter could be taken up by a municipality instead of by the vestry, *Jones* 2269–2271. 2279–2286.

Southwark (*Borough of*). Examination relative to the non-incorporation of the borough of Southwark by the City, as well as the position in which the former now stands towards the latter, *Scott* 2171. 2202.

Southwark Bridge. Reference to the purchase of Southwark Bridge by the City; trust property available for the purpose, *Corrie* 805–808.

Southwark-street. Comment upon the breaking up of the new pavement in Southwark-street, in order to lay water mains, *Rendle* 1251. 1253. 1275.

Strand District. Return showing the rateable annual value on the 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the Strand District, also the rateable annual value on the 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 182, 183.

See also *Somerset House.*

Streets (*Naming and Numbering*). Comment upon the claim of the Metropolitan Board to regulate the naming of the streets and the numbering of the houses in the City; expediency of this resting entirely with the City authorities, *Corrie* 569–575. 712–716—— Meddlesome character of the interference of the Board in the matter of naming the streets in the City; expediency of this power being withdrawn from them, *ib.* 712–716. 722. 760–762.

Considerable importance attached to the question of the re-numbering of houses and the re-naming of the streets in the metropolis, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1326——Statement in defence of the power and practice of the Board in regard to the re-numbering of houses in the City, *ib.* 1326–1341——Practice of the Board to communicate with the local authorities before re-numbering any street, *ib.* 1327.

Expediency of one body being entrusted with the numbering of the streets throughout the metropolis, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1331, 1332——Rule of having even numbers on one side of the street and odd numbers on the other, *ib.* 1331—— Course pursued by the Board in dropping the numbers where there is a vacant space not built upon, *ib.* 1333–1339.

Streets and Thoroughfares (*Paving and Cleansing, &c.*) Dissent from the view that the thoroughfares of the metropolis would be more efficiently and economically administered and improved if there were only one jurisdiction within and without the City, *Haywood* 196–210——Suggestion that all carriages, railway waggons, &c., destroying the roads of

Streets and Thoroughfares (*Paving and Cleansing, &c.*)—continued.

the metropolis should be taxed for the maintenance of the roads, *Medwin* 949, 950——Illustration of the prejudicial effect of different bodies having power to open the pavements and lay pipes or mains, *Rendle* 1253——Statement showing the peculiarly crowded state of the City of London; belief that there is no place in the world so densely populated, *Letheby* 1614-1616. 1630-1635.

Special care taken in the City to keep the streets clean; frequency of the contractors being fined in order to keep them up to their work, *Haywood* 1744-1749——Increase of from 8,000 *l.* to 23,000 *l.* a year in the cost of cleansing the streets and removing the dust in the City, *ib.* 1744——Several objections to keeping the streets exceedingly clean, *ib.* 1748——Total of fifty miles of thoroughfares under charge of the Commissioners of Sewers, *ib.* 1763——Obstacle to the adoption in London of the system in Paris for the cleansing of the streets, *ib.* 1771, 1772.

Excellent manner in which the City streets are paved, whilst their condition generally is in advance of the streets in other parts of the metropolis, *Haywood* 1776-1784. 1798 Exceedingly clean state and perfect condition in which the streets of Paris are kept, the cost however being enormous, *ib.* 1773, 1774. 1792-1794——Increased difficulty in keeping the London streets clean on account of the humidity of the climate, *ib.* 1775.

Doubt as to the expediency of any central control in the metropolis in the matter of paving and maintaining the streets, *Haywood* 1781-1786. 1795-1797——Respective advantage of paved and macadamized streets, *ib.* 1790-1792——Course desirable as regards the paving of any street which is situated in two parishes or jurisdictions, *ib.* 1838-1840.

Expediency of its being left to the local authorities for Westminster, and for the City, to carry out a street running from Westminster into the City, *Corrie* 1992. 2003-2007.

Return relating to traffic in the City of London, showing several streets in which there is room for only one vehicle, *App.* 155.

See also *Improvements.*

Subways. Statement in favour of the gas and water companies being compelled to lay their pipes in subways, where these are provided, *Rendle* 1272-1276.

T.

Thames Conservancy. Representation of the Corporation at the Conservancy Board, whereas the Metropolitan Board have failed in an effort to be represented, *Corrie* 799-805.

Expediency of the Metropolitan Board having representation on the Thames Conservancy Board, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1513-1517.

Further comment upon the unsuccessful attempt of the Board to nominate representations on the Conservancy Board, *Corrie* 1977-1979.

Thames Embankment. Statement as to the Corporation of London having originated the Thames Embankment scheme in 1842, *Scott* 345-354——Belief as to the Thames Embankment having been originally suggested by the City, *Corrie* 694. 695. 702-704.

Explanation and defence of the course pursued by the Metropolitan Board with reference to the contracts for the Thames Embankment, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1467-1476.

Exceptional circumstances under which the Metropolitan Board were entrusted by Parliament with making not only the Thames Embankment but the new street to the Mansion House, *Corrie* 1994-1999.

Thwaites, Sir John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Considerable importance attached to the question of the re-numbering of houses, and the re-naming of streets in the metropolis, 1326——Statement in defence of the power and practice of the Metropolitan Board, in regard to the re-numbering of houses in the City, 1326-1341——Explanation that the re-numbering of Wood-street by the Board was undertaken at the instance of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City, 1326. 1340——Expediency of one body being entrusted with the numbering of the streets throughout the metropolis, 1331, 1332——Course pursued by the Board in dropping the numbers where there is a vacant space not built upon, 1333-1339.

Evidence with a view to the reputation of the statement of Mr. Corrie that the Metropolitan Board was established for temporary purposes, and had since been seeking powers which it was never contemplated should be entrusted to it, 1342——Explanation relative to the objection made by the Board to the separate jurisdiction of the City of London in regard

Thwaites, Sir John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—continued.

regard to the stamping of gas meters, 1342——Inaccuracy of a statement that the Metropolitan Board had no control over main sewers within the City, *ib.*——Practice of the Board always to apply to Parliament in carrying out important improvements, 1342. 1447. 1454, 1455.

Exception taken to the statement of Mr. Corrie that the Board did not possess such powers in the matter of important improvements as are possessed by the Commissioners of Sewers in the City, 1342–1347——Circumstances under which the City is free from any obligation to appeal to the Board in regard to the formation of sewers within the City area, 1345——Immense sum expended by the Board upon improvements within the City out of metropolitan taxation, *ib.*——Circumstances of improvements by the Corporation having been largely made out of the coal tax, which is levied over the whole of the metropolis, *ib.*

Statement showing the active steps taken by vestries and district boards in the formation of new sewers, and in other local improvements, 1348–1350——Reference to a certain paper as showing the efficient class of representatives at the Metropolitan Board, 1350——Calculation, based upon the number of houses in the City and the rateable value, that the City, as compared with other districts, is very fairly represented at the Board, 1350–1356. 1378–1382——Increased powers given to the Board under various Acts, the activity and the immense expenditure of the Board on improvements having probably stirred the jealousy of the Corporation of London, 1356.

Practice of the Board to meet weekly, there being also special committees of the Board meeting frequently for the transaction of business; particulars hereon, 1363–1371——Large attendance of members at the weekly meetings, 1370——Laborious duties fulfilled by the members without much dissatisfaction arising, though there is no remuneration, 1371, 1372——Very slight expenditure in refreshments at the meetings of the Board, 1373, 1374.

Reference to a return showing the funds borrowed, and the rate of interest paid by the late Commissioners of Sewers, and the Metropolitan Board respectively, 1374——Circumstance of the Board having commenced operations with a large debt of the former Commissioners of Sewers hanging over them, *ib.*

Considerable difficulty in the way of any direct representation of owners of property on the Metropolitan Board; advantage if this class were better represented, 1376, 1377. 1387–1395. 1406–1415——Expediency of owners of property taking more interest in the constitution of vestries and district boards, 1376, 1377. 1391–1394. 1406–1411——Approval of a revision of the number of members at the Board, though it may be objectionable to fix the representation of each district with reference to the rateable value, exclusively of population and the number of houses, 1378–1385.

Sufficiency of the present number of members for the efficient despatch of the business of the Board, any material increase being objectionable, 1396–1398——Doubt as to the expediency of the Office of Works being represented at the Board; approval however of Government representation if Government property were rateable for improvements, 1399–1405——Undue representation of the City at the Board if there were six members for the City without any increase for other districts, 1416–1418.

Grounds for objecting to an annual election of the members of the Board, 1419–1421——Difficulty in suggesting any machinery by which a better class of persons would be induced to serve on the vestries and district boards, 1422–1426——Further statement as to the difficulty of any arrangement for enabling owners of property to send a representative to the Board; non-objection by the Board to owners being represented, 1427–1433.

Doubt as to the advantage of occupiers sending a representative to the Board, independently of the vestries, 1434–1436——Probable inducement to superior men to serve on the Board if appointed thereto directly by Government, 1437, 1438——Suggested power of appeal by any ratepayer from the local vestry to the Metropolitan Board, 1439.

Further statement on the subject of the stamping of gas meters having been handed over to the Metropolitan Board, 1440–1444——Objects of the original establishment of the Board further adverted to, 1445——Relative powers of the Board, and of the Commissioners of Sewers in the City further considered; similar powers of the former as of the latter, so far as relates to improvements and the taking of houses for the purposes, under the Act 57 Geo. 3; 1446–1455.

Examination in support of the statement that various important improvements carried out, irrespectively of the Metropolitan Board, were charged upon metropolitan funds, 1456–1466——Explanation and defence of the course pursued by the Board with reference to the contracts for the Thames Embankment, 1467–1476——Statement showing the progress made with the new street from Blackfriars Bridge to the Mansion House; denial that there has been any want of activity in the matter on the part of the Metropolitan Board, 1477–1498. 1547.

Thwaites, Sir John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Opinion as to the extensive functions proper to be entrusted to the Metropolitan Board, including control in the matters of gas and water, the bridges, &c., 1509–1512. 1532–1539——Expediency of the Metropolitan Board having representatives on the Thames Conservancy Board, 1513–1517——Approval of some control in the Thames Conservancy Board over the River Lea trustees, 1518–1521——Explanation with reference to storm overflows from the northern main sewer being passed into the River Lea above a tidal lock, 1522–1526.

Statement of the average attendance upon committees of the Metropolitan Board, 1527, 1528——Defence of the entertainment provided by the Board on the opening of the main drainage works, 1529–1531——Expediency of a central control in all metropolitan matters affecting the interests and convenience of the inhabitants and ratepayers at large, 1532–1539——Exemption of the Inner Temple and other Inns of Court from rate for improvement, though it is highly expedient that they be compelled to pay their fair share of metropolitan taxation, 1540–1546.

Toll Gates. Resolution of the Committee in favour of steps being taken by the proposed municipal council for freeing the thoroughfares and bridges from toll-gates and bars, 2*nd Rep.* vii.

Town Halls. Great convenience, as regards political gatherings of the people, if there were town halls in each of the proposed municipalities in the metropolis, *Scott* 2213–2215.

Traffic Regulations. Probable advantage in the proposed central board having charge of traffic regulations throughout the metropolis, *Medwin* 980–982.

V

Vaccination. Very defective operation of the system of vaccination under the local authorities in London; amendments suggested, *Rendle* 1241.

Vagrancy, &c. (City of London). Active steps taken for the suppression of vagrancy and mendicancy in Cheapside, Cornhill, &c., *Goodman* 875–881.

Vestries. Witness considers that the vestry system, especially as taken in connection with the Metropolitan Board of Works, is on the whole a failure; grounds for this conclusion, *Medwin* 917–919. 943 *et seq.*——Great superiority of the Corporation over the vestries as regards the social position and the intelligence of its members; great improvement of the former in late years, whilst there has been a growing deterioration in the vestries, *ib.* 919. 973–978.——Much more harmonious co-operation of the members of the Corporation than of vestrymen, *ib.* 919—— Feeling on the part of vestries in favour of local self-government, as distinct from the centralization involved in the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 943. 1064–1066.

Less value attached to the office of vestryman since all the more important works and improvements have been placed in charge of the Metropolitan Board, *Medwin* 977, 978——Causes of the defective composition of the vestries, such causes not operating in the case of municipalities, *ib.* 983–988——Further reference to the desire of the vestries to be rid of the action of the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 1133–1135.

Statement strongly in favour of the election of vestrymen by polling papers; satisfactory result of the election of guardians on this plan in St. George's, Southwark, *Rendle* 1220–1229——Unfit men elected as vestrymen under the present system, whilst under a system of voting papers a much superior class would be appointed, *ib.* 1257–1263.

Statement showing the active steps taken by vestries and district boards in the formation of new sewers, and in other local improvements, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1348–1350——Difficulty in suggesting any machinery by which a better class of persons would be induced to serve on vestries and district boards, *ib.* 1422–1426——Suggested power or appeal by any ratepayer from the local vestry to the Metropolitan Board, *ib.* 1439.

Difficulty experienced by the vestries in inducing their representatives at the Metropolitan Board to take action on their behalf, *Bontems* 1846——Important defects requiring correction as regards the election and constitution of vestries, as in Islington, *ib.* 1886–1900——Improvement if the vestries were empowered to elect permanent chairmen, irrespectively of the clergy, *ib.* 1904–1906.

See also *Municipal Corporations.* *St. James's (Westminster).*

Voting Papers. Importance of the election of vestrymen by polling papers; satisfactory result of the election of guardians on this plan in St. George's, Southwark, *Rendle* 1220–1229——Unfit men elected as vestrymen under the present system, whilst under a system of voting papers a much superior class would be appointed, *ib.* 1257–1263.

Papers in illustration of the mode of voting at elections of guardians in St. George's, Southwark, *App.* 165.

Reports, 1867—*continued.*

W.

Walbrook. Explanation as to the Corporation having acquired one house at the corner of Walbrook, but having done nothing towards widening Walbrook up to the Mansion House, *Haywood* 282–293. 302——This improvement would be most valuable, but the cost would be astounding, *ib.* 302.

Wandsworth (*Rateable Value*). Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the district; also the rateable annual value on 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable annual value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Water Supply. Supply of water to the City by the New River and East London Companies, *Letheby* 1562——Good and ample supply of water to the City at the present time, though it becomes insufficient through the defective appliances for distribution in the houses, *ib.* 1636–1640——Approval of a constant supply of water by the companies if the distributing apparatus were in proper condition, *ib.* 1641–1642–1644——Utter impracticability of a constant supply until the appliances for distribution are put into a proper condition by the landlords, *ib.* 1642. 1644——Sufficiency of the existing powers in regard to the companies being called upon to provide a constant supply, *ib.* 1643.

Very great consumption of water in washing the streets in the City, there being great waste generally in the supply of water to the metropolis, *Haywood* 1758–1762.

Recommendation by the Committee that the proposed municipal council be entrusted with a supervision over the supply of water, *2nd Rep.* vi.

Waterlow, Sydney Hedley. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Information relative to some dwellings erected by the Corporation of London in Clerkenwell for the poorer classes in the City; great demand for these tenements, the financial result being equivalent to a net rental of about four per cent., 1647–1657. 1662–1666——Erection of these building out of the City funds, the total cost being about 54,000 *l.*, 1650–1652. 1689——Recent conversion by the Corporation of some taverns near the Islington Cattle Market into lodging-houses for working people, at a cost of about 10,000 *l.*, 1658–1661——Enhanced value of lodging-houses when near the places where the men work, 1667–1672.

Particulars relative to some lodging-houses, built by a company with which witness is connected, in Southwark and several other localities; varying rents paid for these tenements, whilst the local taxation is very unequal and oppressive, 1668–1690——Statement in illustration of the heavy pressure of local taxation upon working men in Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, and other poor districts as compared with the local taxation paid by the more wealthy classes in the West End, 1680. 1689, 1690.

Relative proportion between the wages of working men and the rents paid for their dwellings, 1683–1688——Increased burden upon the owners and occupiers of small tenements if liable in all cases to the house tax; explanation hereon as to the form of construction adopted in order to escape this tax, 1691–1699——Conclusion that taxation in the eastern districts of the metropolis has reached its limits, 1700–1703.

Westminster. Feeling of St. James's vestry in favour of a municipality for Westminster, *Medwin* 1109. 1110.

Return showing the rateable annual value on 1st January 1856 of the property upon which the Metropolitan Board assessed the district; also the rateable annual value on 1st January in each succeeding year, and the rateable value now in preparation for the main drainage rate, *App.* 180, 181.

Wood Street. Explanation that the re-numbering of Wood-street by the Metropolitan Board was undertaken at the instance of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City, *Sir J. Thwaites* 1326. 1340.

Wooden Pavements. Approval of wooden pavements if kept properly gravelled, as in the City, *Haywood* 1801–1805——Considerable expense of wooden pavements; practice in the City of making the local inhabitants contribute to the expense, *ib.* 1805–1807.

SPECIAL

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

TURNPIKE TRUSTS BILL;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

AND

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
5 and 18 *June* 1867.

SPECIAL REPORT - - - - - - - - p. vii

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE - - - p. viii

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - p. 1

Wednesday, 1st May 1867.

Turnpike Trusts Bill, read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

Monday, 6th May 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Select Committee on the Turnpike Trusts Bill do consist of Nineteen Members.

Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Algernon Egerton.
Mr. George Clive.
Mr. Welby.
Mr. Hastings Russell.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Colonel French.
Mr. Knight.
Sir Robert Anstruther.
Mr. Read.
Mr. Goldney.
Colonel William Stuart.
Mr Whalley.
Mr. Woodd.
Lord Henley.
Mr. Mitford.
Mr. Holland.
Mr. Jasper More.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Friday, 17th May 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Surveyors of Highways, of Portslade, Aldrington, and Old Shoreham; from Trustees of Barnsley and Grange Moor Turnpike Road, and from Doncaster and Salters Brook Turnpike Road, praying to be heard by Counsel against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Counsel ordered.

Monday, 20th May 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Order [17th May] for hearing Counsel on several Petitions against the Bill, be read, and discharged.

Ordered, THAT the Petition of the Board of Guardians of the Yeovil Union and the Yeovil Highway Board, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Tuesday, 21st May 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Trustees of the Dunchurch and Stonebridge Turnpike Road Act, 1824; the Trustees of the Stow and Moreton Turnpike Roads; the Trustees of the Hinckley and Coventry Turnpike Roads; and, Members of the Leighton-stone Highway Board, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Inhabitants of Foleshill; the Trustees of the Coventry and Stoney Stanton Turnpike Road; the Trustees of the Nottingham and Derby Turnpike Road; the Trustees of the Derby and Uttoxeter Turnpike Road; the Trustees of the Derby, Duffield, Wirksworth, and Sheffield Turnpike Road; the Trustees of the Cavendish Bridge and Hulland Ward Turnpike Road; and Inhabitants of the parish of Bedworth, praying to be heard by Counsel against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Thursday, 23*rd May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Landowners and others in the parishes through which the Roads of the Amesbury and Hennet and Amesbury Turnpike Trusts run; the Trustees of the Fisherton, Wilton, &c. Turnpike Roads; and, the Hastings District Highway Board, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petition of the Trustees of Eggleston Turnpike Roads, praying to be heard by Counsel against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Friday, 24*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Telscombe; and the Trustees of the Wrexham, Ruabon, Bangor, and Llangollen District of Roads, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petition from Llanfihangel, praying to be heard by Counsel against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Sandgate, Dover, Ashford (two), Hanley, and Woodborough, in favour of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Monday, 27*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Trustees of Hundred House (Worcestershire) Roads; and, Norwich to Scole Bridge Road, against the Bill; and from Trustees of Warwick and Paddlebrook and Warwick and Stratford-upon-Avon Roads; and, Lichfield United Trust, praying to be heard by Counsel against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Tuesday, 28*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Guardians of Foleshill Poor Law Union; Exhall, and Stonnall, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from W. Smith and others; Blagg and others; J. J. Wheal and others; and, James Watkins, Bolton, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Wednesday, 29*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petition from Penmynydd against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Hinstock, and Hadley, in favour of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Thursday, 30*th May* 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petition of the Trustees of the Helston Turnpike Roads against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Joseph Dodds and others; S. F. Holmes and others; John Hibbert and James Hepworth; Officers of the Canterbury to Ramsgate Turnpike Trust; A. P. Trow and W. A. Dillon; and H. W. Littler and others, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Friday, 31*st May* 1867.

Ordered, That the Petitions from the Trustees of the Maidenhead Turnpike Roads; the Trustees of the Flint, Holywell, and Mostyn Turnpike Roads; the Trustees of the Henley and Dorchester Turnpike Roads; Harpsden; Southstoke-cum-Woodcott; Rotherfield Peppard; Whitchurch; Ipsden-with-Stoberow; Newnham Murren; Checkendon; Eye and Dunsden; Crowmarsh Gifford; Rotherfield Greys; Mongewell; Mapledurham; Shiplake; Northstoke; Caversham; Bix; Henley Highway Board; and Aldrington, &c., against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from Kingsnorth, Mersham, Smeeth, Willesborough, Deal, Everly Turnpike Trust, Holt, and Brabourne, in favour of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from John Cooper, Clerk, and Charles Harding, Surveyor to the Trustees of the Henley and Dorchester Turnpike Roads; Whitstable; H. V. Miles and another; Officers of the Canterbury to Dover Turnpike Trust; Officers of the Canterbury to Sandwich Turnpike Trust; and Peterborough, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Monday, 3*rd June* 1867.

Ordered, That the Petition from Hastings, that the St. Leonard's and Sedlescomb and the Hastings and Hollington Trusts may not be continued, and in favour of the Turnpike Trusts Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from Holyhead and other places; the Trustees of Ashby-de-la-Zouch to Tutbury Road; and Dudley, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from Sandown, and Commissioners of the Ryde Improvement Act, 1854, in favour of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from Brislington, and the Metropolis, for Alteration of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from H. Messiter and others; R. M. Mount and others; W. J. Tucker and others; and J. H. Maher and J. J. Coulton, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Tuesday, 4*th June* 1867.

Ordered, That the Select Committee on the Turnpike Trusts Bill have Power to report the Minutes of Evidence.

Ordered, That the Bill be re-committed to the former Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from Trustees of the Amesbury Turnpike Roads, and Trustees of the Kennet and Amesbury Turnpike Roads, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That the Petitions from T. E. Hammond and J. Hotson, and E. J. Blair and others, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Wednesday, 5*th June* 1867.

Ordered, That the Petition from Ventnor Local Board, in favour of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, That leave be given to the Select Committee to make a Special Report.

Thursday, 6th June 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petition of the Trustees of the Wallingford, Wantage, and Faringdon Road, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Officers of the Radstock Turnpike Trust, Officers of the Frome Turnpike Trust, Officers of the Black Dog Turnpike Trust, and H. Bernard and others, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Thursday, 13th June 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Trustees of the Ipswich and South Town Turnpike Road; the Shanklin District Local Board; and from the Trustees of the Carnarvonshire Turnpike Trust, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petition from the Shanklin District Local Board, in favour of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Surveyor of the Carnarvonshire Turnpike Trust, and from Owen Jones, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Friday, 14th June 1866.

Ordered, THAT the Petition of the Officers of the Dorchester and Wool Turnpike Trusts, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Trustees of the Blandford and Poole Turnpike Road, and from Llandysilio, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Monday, 17th June 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Trustees of the Skipton and Otley, &c. Turnpike Roads; the Upton Snodsbury Highway District Board; the Pershore Union; and, from the Trustees of Kidderminster District Turnpike Roads, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from the Officers of the Liverpool and Preston Turnpike Trusts; from G. Robinson and others; from the Officers of Kidderminster District Roads; and from W. O. Hunt and others, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

Tuesday, 18th June 1867.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from W. Hornby and others; Trustees of the Lyme Regis Turnpike Roads Act; Trustees of the Lynn South Gate Turnpike Roads; Trustees of the Lynn East Gate Turnpike Roads, and Trustees of the Lynn and Wisbech Turnpike Roads, against the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petitions from Corporation of Newport, and West Cowes District Local Board of Health, in favour of the Bill, be referred to the Select Committee.

Ordered, THAT the Petition of Trustees of the New Cross Turnpike Roads, for compensation, be referred to the Select Committee.

SPECIAL REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE to whom the TURNPIKE TRUSTS BILL was referred, have agreed to the following SPECIAL REPORT:

THAT in any future legislation on the subject of Turnpike Trusts it will be expedient to alter and amend the Highway Act (27 & 28 Vict. c 101), so as to provide an uniform system of road management throughout the country, and that the maintenance of all roads should be provided for by a rate levied on districts, and not as at present on parishes separately.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Wednesday, 8th May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.	Mr. More.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. Algernon Egerton.	Mr. Welby.
Colonel W. Stuart.	Mr. Read.
Mr. George Clive.	Mr. Mitford.
Mr. Whalley.	Mr. Holland.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.	Mr. Hastings Russell.

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN was called to the Chair.

The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 10th May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Woodd.	Colonel W. Stuart.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. More.
Colonel French.	Mr. Algernon Egerton.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Whalley.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. G. Clive.
Mr. Welby.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Mitford.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.

Mr. *William Harrison*, examined.

The Committee deliberated.

Motion made, and question put, "That a witness from the Worcester Turnpike Trust shall be heard on the subject of the allocation of the debt, and the future maintenance of the roads"—(Mr. *Knight*).—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 8.	Noes, 5.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Lord Henley.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Whalley.	Mr. George Clive.
Sir Robert Anstruther.	Mr. Algernon Egerton.
Mr. Mitford.	Mr. More.
Mr. Knight.	
Mr. Welby.	
Mr. Read.	

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 14*th May* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Clive.	Colonel French.
Sir Robert Anstruther.	Colonel Stuart.
Mr. Mitford.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Read.	Mr. Whalley.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Algernon Egerton.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. More.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Mr. Welby.	

Rev. *John Pearson*, examined.

Room cleared.—Committee deliberated.

Mr. *John Edwin Bradfield*, examined.

Room cleared.—Committee deliberated.

Preamble of the Bill read, and *postponed.*

Clause 1, *postponed.*

Clause 2, Amendments made.

Amendment proposed, after the word "Act," in line 35, to insert the words, "and the term of whose Acts shall have expired"—(Mr. *Sclater-Booth*).—Question put, "That those words be there inserted."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 10.
Mr. Read.	Lord Henley.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Welby.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Goldney.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Colonel W. Stuart.
	Mr. Whalley.
	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
	Mr. Algernon Egerton.
	Mr. More.
	Mr. Mitford.

Clause further amended, and *agreed to.*

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 17*th May* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Goldney.	Mr. Whalley.
Mr. Knight.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Mr. Welby.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Colonel French.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Mitford.	Mr. More.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Woodd.
Mr. Holland.	

Clause 3, Amendments made.

Amendment proposed, at the end of the clause to add the words, "Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be held to give any legal or other claim on the part of

the said mortgagees in respect of their debts beyond what is conferred upon by the original or other Acts under which the said debts were incurred"—(Mr. *Whalley*).—Question put, "That these words be added to the clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 3.	Noes, 9.
Colonel French.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Welby.
Mr. Whalley.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
	Sir Robert Anstruther.
	Mr. Goldney.
	Lord Henley.
	Mr. Mitford.
	Mr. Holland.

Clause 3, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 4, Amendments made.

Amendment proposed, in line 28, to leave out the words, "if he think fit"—(Mr. *Knight*). Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 7.	Noes, 5.
Mr. Welby.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. Knight.
Mr. Whalley.	Mr. Read.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. Mitford.	Mr. Woodd.
Mr. Holland.	
Mr. More.	

Another Amendment proposed, in line 30, to leave out from the word "specified," in order to add the words, "out of moneys to be voted by Parliament for that purpose" —(Mr. *Knight*).—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 9.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Welby.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. Knight.
Mr. Goldney.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Whalley.	
Lord Henley.	
Mr. Mitford.	
Mr. Holland.	
Mr. Woodd.	
Mr. More.	

Clause 4, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 5, *postponed.*

Clause 6, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clause 7, *postponed.*

Clause 8. *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question put, "That the Committee do now adjourn"—(Mr. *Knight*). —The Committee divided:

Ayes, 3.	Noes, 7.
Mr. Welby.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Knight.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Mr. Mitford.	Mr. Goldney.
	Mr. Whalley.
	Lord Henley.
	Mr. Holland.
	Mr. More.

Clause 9, Amendments made.

Amendment proposed in line 22, to leave out the words "Local Authorities," in order to insert the words "Magistrates in Quarter Sessions out of the County rate"—(Mr. *Knight*).

Knight).—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 8.	Noes, 2.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.	Mr. Welby.
Sir Robert Anstruther.	Mr. Knight.
Mr. Goldney.	
Mr. Whalley.	
Lord Henley.	
Mr. Mitford.	
Mr. Holland.	
Mr. More.	

Other amendments made.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 21st May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Mitford.
Sir Robert Anstruther.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. More.
Colonel French.	Mr. Whalley.
Lord Henley.	Mr. A. Egerton.

Clause 9.—Amendment proposed, in line 23, after the words "Section 32," to insert the words, "Together with a contribution from all Boroughs, Towns, and other districts, which, under the provisions of the Highway Act, are not liable to be included in highway districts, and which adjoin the highway districts in which such turnpike roads are respectively situated, and into, or through which such turnpike roads run"—(Mr. *Knight*).—Question put, "That those words be there inserted."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 4.	Noes, 7.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Colonel French.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Read.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Knight.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
	Sir Robert Anstruther.
	Lord Henley.
	Mr. Mitford.

Other amendments made.

Question put, "That this Clause, as amended, stand part of the Bill."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 9.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Knight.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. Welby.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.	
Colonel French.	
Sir Robert Anstruther.	
Lord Henley.	
Mr. Mitford.	
Mr. More.	

Clauses 10 to 17, *postponed.*

Postponed Clause 5.—Amendment proposed, in line 38, after the words "the Secretary of State shall," to insert the words, "direct the amount of such debt to be defrayed out of the county rate of the county within which such turnpike road is situate"—Mr. *Sclater-Booth*).

Booth). — Question put, "That these words be there inserted."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 7.	Noes, 5.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Michael Hicks Beach
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Colonel French.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Whalley.	Mr. Mitford.
Lord Henley.	
Mr. More.	

Words inserted.

Amendment proposed, in the same line, to leave out from the words "by an order," to the words "the debt therein specified," in page 5, line 8.—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause," put, and negatived.—Another amendment proposed, after the word "situate," at the end of the last amendment, to insert the words, "And in the case of such Turnpike Road passing through more than one county, or through any borough, or place under a Local Act, and not contributing to the county rate, then the Secretary of State shall apportion such debt between and amongst such several counties, boroughs, or places, due regard being had in such apportionment to the rateable value of such several counties, boroughs, or places, and to the extent of mileage of such road within the same respectively"—(Mr. *Sclater-Booth*).—Question put, "That those words be there inserted."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 10.	Noes, 2.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. A. Egerton.	Mr. More.
Mr. Welby.	
Mr. Hastings Russell.	
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.	
Mr. Knight.	
Mr. Read.	
Mr. Whalley.	
Lord Henley.	
Mr. Mitford.	

Another Amendment proposed, in line 8, page 5, to leave out the words "and shall empower the"—(Mr. *Whalley*).—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 4.	Noes, 8.
Mr. Egerton.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Mitford.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
	Mr. Read.
	Mr. Whalley.
	Lord Henley.
	Mr. More.

Clause further amended.

[Adjourned to Wednesday, 29th May, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 30*th May* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Goldney.	Mr. Whalley.
Lord Henley.	Colonel French.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Mitford.	Mr. More.
Mr. Welby.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Colonel Stuart.	Mr. Woodd.
	Sir Robert Anstruther.

Postponed

Postponed Clause 5.—Question put, "That this Clause, as amended, stand part of the Bill."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 9.	Noes, 8.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. Welby.
Mr. Knight.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Read.	Colonel French.
Mr. Whalley.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Goldney.
Mr. Mitford.	Colonel W. Stuart.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Woodd.
Mr. More.	

Postponed Clause 7, *disagreed to.*

Postponed Clause 10. Amendment proposed in line 17, to leave out the words "unduly and disproportionately"—(Sir *Michael Hicks Beach*).—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 12.	Noes, 4.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Read.
Mr. Welby.	Lord Henley.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Knight.	
Sir Robert Anstruther.	
Mr. Goldney.	
Colonel W. Stuart.	
Mr. Whalley.	
Mr. Mitford.	
Mr. Woodd.	
Mr. More.	

Amendment proposed, at the end of the Clause to add the words, "and if it shall appear to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, after due inquiry, as hereinafter provided by the Enclosure Commissioners, that certain boroughs and places not paying county rates ought fairly to contribute to the repairs of such roads, the Enclosure Commissioners, after due inquiry, shall make a provisional order to that effect, to be laid before Parliament as in the case of enclosures"—(Mr. *Knight*).—Question put, "That those words be added to the Clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 11.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Knight.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Read.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Mr. Whalley.	Mr. Goldney.
	Colonel W. Stuart.
	Lord Henley.
	Mr. Mitford.
	Mr. Holland.
	Mr. Woodd.
	Mr. More.

Clause *agreed to.*

Postponed Clauses 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, *disagreed to.*

Postponed Clause 16 amended, Amendment proposed at the end of the Clause to add the words "But no such compensation shall be given except in the case of a trust, the term of whose Act shall not have expired on the 1st November 1868"—(Sir *Robert Anstruther*).—Question put, "That those words be added to the Clause."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 3.	Noes, 11.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Welby.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Sir Robert Anstruther.	Mr. Knight.
	Mr. Read.
	Colonel W. Stuart.
	Mr. Whalley.
	Lord Henley.
	Mr. Mitford.
	Mr. Holland.
	Mr. Woodd.
	Mr. More.

Question put, That this Clause, as amended, stand part of the Bill.—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 9.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.	Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Knight.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Colonel W. Stuart.	
Mr. Whalley.	
Lord Henley.	
Mr. Mitford.	
Mr. Woodd.	
Mr. More.	

Postponed Clause 17, *disagreed to.*

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 4th June 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Knight.	Mr. More.
Mr. Hastings Russell.	Mr. Whalley.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Read.
Lord Henley.	Colonel Stuart.
Mr. Sclater Booth.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Colonel French.	

MS. Clause (A.) brought up and read, as follows:—"If it shall appear to the Secretary of State that the special circumstances of any Turnpike Trusts render it expedient that the expenses of the repairs of the whole or any part of the Roads of the said Trust shall be defrayed otherwise than is provided by this Act, then it shall be lawful for the said Secretary of State to direct a full enquiry into the said special circumstances, and after such enquiry to suspend, and he is hereby authorised to suspend (by order under his hand) the expiration of such Trust Act, until the end of the next session of Parliament; and the said Secretary of State shall, by provisional order, declare in what manner the repairs of the said roads or parts thereof shall be hereafter defrayed, and such provisional order, when approved by Parliament, shall be binding upon all parties affected thereby."—(The *Chairman*).—Clause read a second time, and *added to* the bill.

MS. Clause (B.) brought up and read, as follows: "With respect to any balances not expended in such compensation, the trustees shall, as soon as may be after the expiration of their trust, distribute any moneys remaining in their hands amongst the parishes upon which will fall the liability to repair the roads of such trust, in proportion to the mileage of such roads in each parish."—(The *Chairman*).—Clause read a second time, and added to the Bill.

Motion made, and question put, "That the Chairman be directed to move for leave to the Committee to make a special Report"—(Sir *Michael Hicks Beach*).—The Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Knight.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.	Colonel William Stuart.
Mr. Read.	Lord Henley.
Mr. Whalley.	
Mr. More.	

Postponed Clause 1, *agreed to.*

Preamble amended, by omitting all reference to debts.

Preamble, as amended, *agreed to.*

Question, "That the Bill, as amended, be reported to the House, and that the Chairman be directed to move that the Bill be re-committed to the former Committee"—put, and *agreed to.*

Ordered, To Report, together with the Minutes of Evidence.

TURNPIKE TRUSTS (RE-COMMITTED) BILL.

Wednesday, 5th June 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Clive.	Sir. Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. Whalley.	Lord Henley.
Mr. More.	Mr. Read.
Colonel Stuart.	Colonel French.

Preamble, *postponed.*

Clause 1, amended, and *agreed to.*

Clause 2, *agreed to.*

Clause A., *agreed to.*

Clauses 3, 4, 6, and 8, *disagreed to.*

Clauses 9, 10, and 16, *agreed to.*

Clause B., *agreed to.*

MS. Clause C., brought up, and read as follows:—

This Act shall not extend to Scotland, nor to the following counties in Wales, viz., Brecknockshire, Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire, Glamorganshire, Pembrokeshire, and Radnorshire.—Clause read a second time, and added to the Bill.

Preamble, *agreed to.*

Ordered, To Report.

Resolved, That the Chairman be directed to move for leave for the Committee to make a special Report.

[Adjourned to Tuesday, 18th June, at 12 o'clock, to consider a Special Report.

Tuesday, 18th June 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN in the Chair.

Mr. Read.	Mr. Knight.
Mr. Welby.	Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Lord Henley.	Colonel William Stuart.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	Mr. Whalley.
Mr. Mitford.	Sir Robert Anstruther.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Woodd.

Special Report proposed by Mr. Whalley read, as follows:—

"1. The Committee have gone through the clauses of this Bill, and submit the following special Report thereon:—

"2. By the 5th clause it was proposed to provide for the payment of any debt remaining due on Turnpike Trusts, of which the Acts had expired, by charging the same on the parishes through which the road passed, according to mileage; and also to empower the Secretary of State to continue the tolls on such trusts for 10 years, to pay such debts.

"3. An amendment that such debts should be charged on the County rate, was carried; also to omit the words authorising the Secretary of State to continue the tolls on any such trusts for any period not exceeding 10 years.

"4. The Chairman on putting the question, that the clause as so amended, stand part of the Bill, stated that if it should be carried in the affirmative, he should abandon that part of his Bill which related to Turnpike Trusts in debt; and it being carried, the Committee then proceeded to consider and settle the clauses of the Bill, so far as related to the Trusts not in debt, and agreed to the same.

"5. The Committee are of opinion that measures should be at once adopted with a view to the abolition of the Turnpike Trusts in debt, and of which the Acts have expired, and submit the following as a mode of accomplishing that object:

> "That an inquiry should be made forthwith by the Secretary of State, or other competent authority, into the circumstances of each of such Trusts, and that on or before the 1st of March next, a provisional order should be made and submitted to Parliament, setting forth the amount of such debt which in the judgment of the Secretary of State ought to be provided for, and also the mode in which, in his judgment, the same should be paid; and such order, on being approved by Parliament, to be binding on all parties.

"6. The Committee are further of opinion, that clauses carrying out the foregoing might be advantageously inserted in the Turnpike Trusts Continuance Bills of this Session, and that the trustees of the several Turnpike Trusts included therein should be informed that no further continuance of their respective trusts will be proposed to Parliament by the Government after that of the present Session.

"The following clauses would carry out the views of the Committee:

"7. 'Whereas it is expedient to make such provision in respect of the several Turnpike Trusts referred to in this Act as shall render any further renewal of the several Acts relating thereto unnecessary,

"'Be it enacted, That on or before the 1st of March next, the Secretary of State shall lay before both Houses of Parliament a Report setting forth the circumstances under which it is expedient to provide for the payment of any debt remaining due on Turnpike Trusts, of which the original Acts have expired, and in such Report shall be stated the following particulars:

> "1st. 'The amount of mortgage or other debt remaining due upon such Turnpike Trusts.
>
> "2nd. 'Whether any and what portion of such debt should be provided for by some other provision than that of tolls.
>
> "3rd. 'To set forth in what mode other than by the continuance of tolls the debt might in his judgment be fairly distributed and paid, and whether by the same being charged on parishes, highway districts or counties, or out of the Consolidated Fund, and in what proportions, and by what instalments.

"'And it is further enacted that, in addition to such Report, the said Secretary of State shall at the same time lay before both Houses of Parliament a Provisional Order containing the names of all the Turnpike Trusts in respect of which such provision as aforesaid shall be deemed by him necessary or expedient, and such Provisional Order, when approved of by Parliament, shall be binding on all parties affected thereby.'

"8. The Committee refer to the Inquiry and Report of the Committee of 1836, and also to that of 1864; and state that they fully concur in the following opinion therein expressed. (1836), 'That the abolition of tolls throughout the kingdom would be beneficial to the country'; (1864), that 'Tolls are unequal in pressure, costly in collection, inconvenient to the public, and injurious as causing a serious impediment to intercourse and traffic.'

"9. The Committee of 1864 also contains the following specific suggestion as to the steps to be taken with a view to the abolition of this system:—'That the power of Parliament might be beneficially exercised in order to provide for the more speedy extinction of the debt of any trust"; and the foregoing clauses, in conjunction with the provisions of the Bill relating to Trusts out of debt, referred to the Committee and duly reported to the House, is, in their opinion, calculated to give effect to such suggestion."

Special Report proposed by Sir Michael Hicks Beach read, as follows:—

"1. THAT in the opinion of your Committee any measure for the termination of such turnpike trusts as are not affected by this Bill should provide for the general and simultaneous abolition of tolls throughout the country.

"2. That inasmuch as it has been frequently proved in evidence before Committees of the House, that peculiar hardship might occasionally be caused by the universal application of any scheme, either for the payment of the debt, or for the future maintenance of the roads, it is expedient that any legislaiion on the subject shall include some method of dealing exceptionally with such cases as may be found on examination to require it.

"That, as by the establishment of railways much traffic has been diverted from turnpike roads on to the ordinary parish highways, so that the latter have in many instances become the

the principal roads in a district, it is expedient that an alteration of the Highway Act of 1862 should form part of any measure for the future maintenance of turnpike roads.

"4. That the following points should be specially considered in any such alteration:—

"(1.) The compulsory adoption of the Act in every county.

"(2.) The maintenance of all roads, whether turnpike or highway, by a rate levied upon the districts, and not, as at present, upon the several parishes contained in it.

"(3.) Some provision for a more efficient supervision of the roads, by the appointment of a head surveyor over several adjacent districts.

"5. That a measure in accordance with the foregoing recommendations should be introduced as early as possible by Her Majesty's Government."

Motion made, and Question put, "That the Special Report proposed by Sir Michael Beach be now read a second time:"—The Committee divided:

Ayes 3.	Noes, 5.
Mr. Holland.	Lord Henley.
Sir Michael Beach.	Mr. Mitford.
Mr. Welby.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
	Mr. Knight.
	Colonel William Stuart.

Special Report proposed by Mr. Welby, read, as follows:—

"That in any future legislation on the subject of Turnpike Trusts, it will be expedient to alter and amend the Highway Act (27 & 28 Vict. c. 101), so as to provide an uniform system of road management throughout the country."

Motion made, and Question, "That the Special Report proposed by Mr. Welby be now read a second time, and considered, put, and *agreed to.*

Amendment proposed, after the word "that" in the first line, to insert the words "as by the establishment of Railways much traffic has been diverted from Turnpike Roads on to the ordinary parish Highways, so that the latter have in many instances become the principal roads in a district, it is desirable that"—(Sir *Michael Beach*).—Question put, that those words be there inserted:—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 3.	Noes, 6.
Mr. Holland.	Lord Henley.
Sir Michael Beach.	Mr. Mitford.
Mr. Whalley.	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
	Mr. Knight.
	Mr. Welby.
	Colonel W. Stuart.

Paragraph *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question put, "That the Special Report proposed by Mr. Welby stand part of the Special Report of this Committee:"—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 7.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Mitford.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Knight.
Sir Michael Beach.	Mr. Whalley.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	
Mr. Welby.	
Colonel W. Stuart.	
Sir Robert Anstruther.	

Amendment proposed, at the end of the Special Report, to add the words, "The maintenance of all roads should be provided for by a rate levied on districts, and not as at present on parishes separately"—(Sir *Michael Beach*).—Question put, "That those words be there added:"—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 9.	Noe, 1.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Knight.
Lord Henley.	
Mr. Mitford.	
Sir Michael Beach.	
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	
Mr. Welby.	
Colonel W. Stuart.	
Mr. Whalley.	
Sir Robert Anstruther.	

Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the last Amendment, to add the words, "That in the opinion of your Committee any measure for the termination of such turnpike trusts as are not affected by this Bill should provide for the general and simultaneous abolition of tolls throughout the country"—(Sir *Michael Beach*).—Question put, "That those words be added to the Special Report:"—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 2.	Noes, 8.
Sir Michael Beach.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Knight.	Lord Henley.
	Mr. Mitford.
	Mr. Sclater-Booth.
	Mr. Welby.
	Colonel William Stuart.
	Mr. Whalley.
	Sir Robert Anstruther.

Another Amendment proposed, to add the words, "Your Committee feel that it would in many cases be a great hardship to throw the *entire* cost of keeping in repair the great general communications of the empire, and the direct roads between the great centres of population, on the rural districts through which they pass.

"A great part of the existing turnpike roads are of this nature. And your Committee further believe that in such case, the great expense of keeping them in thorough repair, hitherto provided by the public in the shape of tolls, would cease, and that the overburdened rural districts would certainly only keep such roads of the width and in the condition of ordinary parish roads, and in as low a state of repair as would avail to insure them against indictment, to the great detriment of the public service, and especially of those thriving and wealthy communities for whose benefit those roads were chiefly constructed.

"Your Committee would suggest that, on the abolition of turnpikes, the Commons Inclosure Commissioners, or some other competent persons, should be appointed to set out and declare what portion of the highways ought to be considered as national highways, and they suggest that aid should be afforded to the rural districts in some such manner as the following:

"Whenever the burden of repairing the turnpike roads set out as national highways, through any highway district, shall be thrown on the common fund of such district under the provisions of this Act, the magistrates in quarter sessions assembled shall repay to the highway board, out of the county rates, one-half of the costs of repairing such roads, if, on inspection, such magistrates shall be satisfied that such roads are in good repair; and the Secretary of State being satisfied after due inspection of such roads, that they are in good repair and condition, shall repay to the county rates of such counties one-half of the money so advanced to the highway board, out of monies to be voted by Parliament annually.

"And your Committee believe that this benefit should be extended to such portions of turnpike roads already thrown on the public rates, as may be declared to be of public importance, as well as those now maintained by tolls"—(Mr. *Knight*).—Question, That those words be added to the Special Report, put, and *negatived.*

Special Report, as amended, read as follows:—"That in any future legislation on the subject of Turnpike Trusts, it will be expedient to alter and amend the Highway Act (27 & 28 Vict. c. 101), so as to provide an uniform system of road management throughout the country, and that the maintenance of all roads should be provided for by a rate levied on districts, and not as at present on parishes separately."

Motion made, and Question put, "That this be the Special Report of the Committee:"—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 8.	Noes, 3.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Mitford.
Lord Henley.	Mr. Knight.
Sir Michael Beach.	Mr. Whalley.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.	
Mr. Welby.	
Colonel W. Stuart.	
Sir Robert Anstruther.	
Mr. Woodd.	

Ordered, To Report.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

Friday, 10*th May* 1867.

Mr. William Harrison - - - - - - - - - p. 1

Tuesday, 14*th May* 1867.

The Rev. John Pearson - - - - - - - - - p. 15

Mr. John Edwin Bradfield - - - - - - - - p. 26

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Friday, 10*th May* 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sir Robert Anstruther.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. George Clive.
Mr. Algernon Egerton.
Colonel French.
Mr. Goldney.
Lord Henley.
Mr. Holland.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Knight.
Mr. Mitford.
Mr. Jasper More.
Mr. Read.
Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Col. William Stuart.
Mr. Welby.
Mr. Whalley.
Mr. Woodd.

E. H. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. William Harrison, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Harrison.*
10 May 1867.

1. *Chairman.*] You are, I believe, the officer of the Home Department under whose especial supervision come all matters relating to turnpikes, with which the Home Department has to deal?—I am.

2. It is your duty to prepare a general statement of the income and expenditure of all the turnpike trusts in England and Wales?—Yes.

3. Will you tell the Committee, carrying on the history of the question from the Committee of 1864, how many trusts there are actually in existence in England and North Wales?—I may say that the abstracts are not made up beyond the 31st of December 1864, but from the information I have been able to get at within the last 48 hours, I think there are about 1,021 in England and North Wales.

4. Whose Acts have not yet expired?—No; that is the total number.

5. How many miles do they comprise of turnpike road?—I do not know.

6. In how many cases have the Acts expired out of that number?—That I have not gone into.

7. How many are there under the Annual Continuance Act?—There was a return made a year ago of all the trusts under the Annual Continuance Act.

8. I find that there were 534 under the operation of the Annual Continuance Act in the year 1864; I may take those figures to be nearly correct, may I?—Approximately so, no doubt.

9. Rather more than half the Acts of Parliament have expired, and are continued by the Annual Continuance Act?—Yes.

10. Now can you tell the Committee generally how many trusts are in debt, and how many out of debt?—Yes; but I would rather take my information so as to give what it will be on the 1st of November next.

11. Can you tell the Committee since the Committee of 1864, that is to say, in the two last Sessions and the present Session of Parliament, how many trusts have come to Parliament for renewal, and have been renewed by a special Act?—In 1864, twelve Acts were granted; in 1865, eight Acts were granted; and last year, 1866, sixteen Acts were granted.

12. In the present year there have been a very small number, have there not?—A very small number.

13. Do you know the uttermost limit of time which any trust has been continued by those renewals?—There was a document which I began to prepare some months ago for my own information, and from that I think some are carried up to the year 1889.

14. All the Acts that have been so renewed of late years contain a provision that they shall not be exempt from the provisions of any general Act that may be passed on the subject?—Yes; and it is a very important provision.

15. Can you put in during the Committee's sitting, some statement with regard to the number of trusts in debt and out of debt?—I can give you what the number is now, but I could give it you better up to the 2nd of November next; the printed statement is to the 31st of December 1864; I have another statement in manuscript, completed to December 1865. At that date I find

Mr. *W. Harrison.*

10 May 1867.

find that there were 182 trusts out of debt (that is to say at December 1865); of that number there are some which appear in the account for the last time; others have expired last November, and some will expire this November; making a total of 45, leaving as the estimated number out of debt 137.

16. Mr. *Goldney.*] We are dealing now with that basis of 1,021?—Yes.

17. Out of that do you take the 182 trusts out of debt?—No; deducting the number which will expire in November next, leaves the total number of trusts 985; to compare with the same class of figures, instead of 1,021, the figures would be 985 for the total number of trusts.

18. *Chairman.*] With regard to those trusts which are out of debt, I suppose you remember that early in February 1866 there was a circular addressed to them all; can you state the nature of that circular?—It was sent out to the clerks of the trusts at my own suggestion, to obtain information with regard to the parishes in which the roads are situated, and various other matters; and to ask what reasons existed why they should not be abolished; the majority have answered, and the answers have been dealt with each on its own merits.

19. In consequence of the answers received there was a material addition, was there not, to the number proposed to be discontinued?—There was a large number scheduled, with a view of limiting their terms, but not with a view of abolishing them.

20. But if you place a trust in the schedule, is not that with a view of abolishing it on the 1st of November in the next year?—No.

21. Will you state the difference between the two things?—The motive of putting a trust in the schedule is merely to limit its term; that schedule was prepared by the late Government; when Mr. Walpole came to office he was very much pressed with business, and could not go into the details of all those trusts, and the reason that some were put in was merely because they had not answered that circular.

22. Is not that answer applicable to a very limited number of those who received the circular?—No, I think not.

23. Can you tell the Committee how many did answer that circular?—I cannot tell.

24. You sent the circulars out, did you not?—Yes; but I cannot charge my memory with the number who replied; most of them have replied since.

25. But out of those trusts out of debt which were placed in the schedule last year, the great majority were trusts who had answered the inquiries, and whose cases were severally considered; was not that so?—I can hardly say the majority of cases; it might be more than half, but only that, I think; I was going to say that I represented to Mr. Walpole that putting a trust in the schedule did not commit him to any opinion, therefore he would have leisure to look into the matter in detail afterwards.

26. But are you not aware that those trusts which were placed in the schedule practically by myself, were so placed with a view to their being entirely abolished?—Yes; but some had been decided on by the previous Under Secretary.

27. The Session was so far advanced when Mr. Walpole came into office, that that was in itself a sufficient reason that he could not possibly be pledged to anything in the schedule?—Yes.

28. Will you explain to the Committee fully what your idea is of the placing of a trust in the schedule?—Merely with a view of limiting its term; the final result must come the following year.

29. Is it not the fact that when a Trust Act has expired, it depends on the will of the Home Secretary whether it is to continue or not?—Yes.

30. Then if the Home Secretary places the trust in the Continuance Act, in the body of the Act, it is continued; but he is not bound to place it in the schedule unless he has an idea of abolishing it?—Just so; the body of the Act means not mentioning them at all; the trusts are continued by the words "Every Act now in force shall be continued."

31. Does not the Continuance Act continue every Act except those that are mentioned in the schedule?—Yes.

32. There is no necessity to place a trust in the schedule unless you mean to abolish it; you only bring it nearer to abolition by limiting the time?—Yes; but the difference is this, that in the body of the Act every Act is continued until the 1st of November the following year, and to the end of the next Session, leaving it indefinite; by putting the local Act in the schedule, it is continued to the 1st of November of the following year and no longer, unless otherwise provided in the meantime.

33. Therefore it is correct to say that you do it with a view to its abolition, although circumstances may occur which may make you alter your decision; is not that so?—I do not regard it as being so.

34. But I believe the practice is not, when one Act expires, that you invariably place it in the schedule for consideration, but you have power to consider it fully without its being placed in the schedule?—No; the general practice has been to put those trusts in the schedule whose affairs needed revision, and, therefore, to put a trust in the schedule with a view to abolition, is the exception rather than the rule.

35. When a Trust Act expires, you must either continue it, or place it in the schedule, must you not?—It is more frequently continued without being mentioned, because it would be an unmanageable thing to put every trust in.

36. Leaving that point for a moment, let us come to the answers of those who did answer the circulars. Is it not the fact, that a very large proportion of them have answered?—I cannot give the figures off hand.

37. What is the general tenour of the answers that you have received from those trusts that are out of debt?—The general tenour of the answers was, that it is undesirable to abolish turnpike roads under existing circumstances.

38. Were there not certain general reasons given applicable to almost every trust, and were not those reasons pretty nearly the same in all cases?—To a great extent they were.

39. For instance, that the state of the road would be deteriorated, and that the rates would be increased, and also a frequent allusion to the hardship on the officers?—Yes, and to the hardship on the ratepayers.

40. And also in many of those answers a suggestion that if there could be a charge on the county

county rate, or the district board, the abolition of the turnpikes would be desirable?—Yes.

41. With regard to the powers which the Secretary of State now exercises, they have been given him under various Acts of Parliament at different times, have they not?—Yes.

42. The principal power he exercises is, that when the trustees have arranged with their creditors, which they have power to do if they can get the consent of two-thirds of the mortgagees, he may deal with that and issue a provisional order?—Yes.

43. Reducing the interest and extinguishing the arrears?—Yes.

44. Can you tell the Committee in how many cases that has already been done?—No, not offhand.

45. Is it under 200?—The number of provisional orders I should estimate as between 100 and 200, but on the last page of the General Report you see that 557 of the trusts have been revised.

46. But you do not mean that these have all been revised under the 14 & 15 Vict., which is the Act which gives that power to the trustees?—No.

47. When you say "revised," you refer also to Acts that have come under the control of the Secretary by the Acts having expired?—Yes, they have either come to Parliament, or made arrangements. This General Report gives the information required for two years.

48. When those trustees come to you under their Act of Parliament, do you find any difficulty in dealing with the matter?—It is frequently difficult to get the mortgagees to consent.

49. But that is a thing that comes before you settled, is it not?—No, it is frequently at the suggestion of the Secretary of State.

50. You cannot act until the mortgagees consent, but when they have consented, do you find any difficulty in making arrangements?—No; because the assent of the Secretary of State is rather given beforehand; it is implied, at any rate.

51. In fact, the whole of the powers now given to the Secretary of State for the Home Department are exercised without any embarrassment or difficulty?—Yes, to the extent to which they are limited.

52. Supposing those powers were increased, do you think that they might still, without much embarrassment or difficulty, be exercised?—I think they might.

53. With regard to the debt, do you think that there would be any great difficulty in ascertaining the market value of the debt upon every trust in the kingdom?—I have no doubt that the clerks of the trustees would have no difficulty.

54. But you, yourself, by the matters coming into your hands, knowing the rate of interest, knowing the duration of the trust, and knowing the general circumstances of the trust, would you not be able to affix the market value to every debt?—I should hardly like to venture to say that I could; I could form an opinion of what the general value of the debt was estimated at in any locality.

55. But you would not find any very great difficulty if you know what the resources available to meet the debt were, and what the length of time during which they would be available was, and what was the interest payable during that time, especially when you have the assistance of the local authorities?—I think that might be done; my remark referred more to the mortgagees' estimate of their own debt.

56. Is it very safe to take a man's own estimate of his debt?—That is done, practically, at this time.

57. Do the mortgagees affix the value of their own debt in those cases of arrangement, and is that acted on?—Yes, by the tenders which are required.

58. But that is another point; we are now speaking of the powers exercised under another Act?—Yes.

59. Does not that apply in this way; that when the trustees have got any money in hand applicable to the payment of debt, they issue a circular to the various creditors asking them what is the lowest amount that they will take; then the mortgagees make their offers, and are dealt with accordingly, and the lowest tender is accepted?—Yes.

60. But that is another question; I was asking you whether, under 14 & 15 Vict. c. 38, which gives powers to the trustees to arrange with their creditors, there is any difficulty in ascertaining the value of the debt, and whether the mortgagee's own estimate is generally taken?—There is no power to force the mortgagees; there has been no attempt on the part of the Secretary of State for the Home Department to form an estimate of the value.

61. You mean that the consent of two-thirds of the mortgagees is necessary?—Yes; but the Secretary of State has required, especially of late years, an estimate from the trustees, of the length of time which they conceive will be necessary to pay off the debt, and therefore the onus of estimating the value of the debt has been thrown on the trustees, and the power of the Secretary of State for the Home Department is limited to saying "Yes," or "No," with regard to continuing the trust.

62. He has a general supervision over that arrangement, and it cannot be done without his supervision?—Yes; if the terms are such that the Secretary of State thinks better could not be obtained if the trustees came to Parliament, then the answer would be consenting to continue the trust; but if the mortgagees will not come down to terms sufficiently low to allow of the payment of the debt within a reasonable time, the trustees have to come to Parliament.

63. The Secretary of State for the Home Department having always the power to refuse to insert a trust in the Continuance Act?—Yes; it is with the object of securing arrangements being made that trusts are put in the schedule.

64. Colonel *French.*] If the Secretary of State for the Home Department refuses to continue the Act, the debt would fall on the trust?—It would do so, but that is very seldom the case.

65. *Chairman.*] I was referring to another class of cases, when the Act has not expired; the Secretary of State for the Home Department has no power to discontinue an Act still in force, but he has power to refuse to sanction an arrangement which he does not approve of?—Yes.

66. Do you think if those powers were extended in every case in which the trusts are in debt, and the trustees were obliged to try to come to an arrangement with their creditors, the supervision

Mr. *W. Harrison.*

10 May 1867.

supervision of the Secretary of State for the Home Department being introduced, there would be any difficulty in such an arrangement being made?—I do not think there would be any difficulty.

67. Then, with regard to the general question of debt, have you any figures that you can give the Committee with respect to the nominal amount of the value of the debt at present, carrying on the figures that we have had before us?—I have no figures with respect to the total debt, but in the general report you will find the figures with respect to the portion paid off. In the year 1864 the figures show the value of the debt discharged in that year, and the amount of the debt that was actually paid off.

68. At what per cent. discount were those debts generally paid off?—In the year 1864, 176,421 *l.* was paid off; of that 57,000 *l.* was paid off at par., 39,000 *l.* was paid off at a reduction of 1 *l.* 18 *s.* 3 *d.* per cent., 64,000 *l.* at a reduction of 20 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.* per cent., and 15,000 *l.* was paid off at a reduction of 60 *l.* 10 *s.* per cent.; making a total of 118,815 *l.* paid off by 95,000 *l.*, or at an average reduction of 19 *l.* 16 *s.* 4 *d.*

69. But you cannot, from the circumstances of any one or two or three years, form an accurate judgment of the value of the total amount of the turnpike debt?—Yes, I can give similar figures for three years, and seeing that this is about 20 per cent., I should think 25 per cent. would be a very fair average discount.

70. Therefore, when I stated to the House of Commons that 75 per cent. was the outside value of the debt, I was not very far wrong?—That is the average; but there are debts that are paid off at 25 *l.* for the 100 *l.*

71. Have you read the statement which I made to the House?—Yes.

72. Do you generally agree with those figures, or are there any points that you would like to correct me upon?—It was only on Wednesday morning that I received intimation of my attendance being required before this Committee, and I have not been able to look at the figures since.

73. Is it not the case that the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with regard to determing the continuing or abolition of trusts, has no rule laid down for his guidance?—He has none.

74. A great deal is left to his discretion, and the decisions vary according to the representations made to him from different parts of the country, is not that so?—It is so.

75. You have stated that there was a very large schedule prepared last year, for which, as you very correctly stated, Mr. Walpole was not responsible. Now, with regard to the schedule of this year, can you tell the Committee anything?—I have nothing to say with regard to that; it has not been considered yet.

76. Are you aware there was a promise that a bill should be introduced at the end of this month?—Yes.

77. Is it possible that the whole of the schedule can be decided between the 10th of May and the end of the month?—It is hardly within my province, perhaps, to answer that.

78. You cannot give me any information with regard to the schedule of this year?—I cannot do so at present.

79. Mr. *Sclater-Booth.*] You said you estimated that on the 1st of November there would be 985 trusts in existence?—Yes.

80. Did you take into consideration the operation of the Continuance Act of this year or not?—That number will be in existence; I am looking at the figures as at present determined.

81. If there were a large schedule, and if the Continuance Act was largely in operation this year, that number would be reduced, would it not?—It would be reduced. I may observe here, that with regard to the Continuance Act, and speaking generally (though I must say that I only am responsible for this opinion), I think there is a great misconception about it. From what I have gathered from various sources, it is just this: looking back to the year 1833, I find a report made to the House of Lords recommending that all trusts should be continued for one year, and that an Act of Parliament should be passed to obtain annual returns from the trusts. Now, previously to that date we were very much in the dark with regard to the trusts, but since the year 1834 there has been an annual return made to Parliament (a summary of which is given in this report), from which it appears that the state of the trusts has been gradually improved. I take it to be that the object of the Annual Continuance Act was to pave the way for some such measure as is now before the Committee; and to corroborate that view I would refer to the provision made in every local Act of Parliament now passed, that such Act shall not be exempt from any general measure. The object of the Continuance Act therefore I take to be this: to continue all the trusts in existence until they can be dealt with simultaneously, and to my knowledge there was an idea in the Home Office, say five years ago, that nothing should be done to the trusts until the highway laws had been altered. When the amendment in the Highway Law was introduced, the Act was permissive only, thereby defeating the object of the Continuance Act, and only complicating the subject. It is only a few years ago since the Highway Act was passed; and, therefore, there has hardly been any time to introduce any new system with regard to turnpike trusts, but the subject has not been lost sight of, and it has been the general tenour of many replies to the circulars, that nothing should be done to the trusts until they were dealt with as a whole, for this reason, amongst others, that to abolish one trust by itself would be very unfair to the neighbouring trusts. It seems more equitable that one measure should be extended to all, and that is one difficulty which we had in dealing with the trusts in the schedule of last year. The great question is, whether a trust can be abolished without injury to the neighbouring trusts, and in those cases where they may I believe the trusts will be allowed to expire, but in the present state of the question it is deemed desirable that some of them should be continued for a short time longer.

82. The fact is, that the form of the Continuance Act is rather misleading, is it not, so that the general reader would suppose that the trusts were in much more danger than they really are, unless he was aware of the practice of the Home Office and of Parliament?—That may be so; to an uninitiated reader it may seem that they are in imminent danger of being allowed to expire, but a trust in a bad condition should not be allowed to go on.

83. But, practically, they do go on from time to time, do they not?—Yes.

84. You

84. You were asked whether you could make an estimate of the money value of the debt, but the market value must depend on the great or less danger of general legislation intefering with the existence of the trusts, I suppose?—That is considered so.

85. Therefore, in one year, you might be paying off a debt which was owing by trusts that were in a good financial position, and which would bear a very high market value, and in another year it might be quite the other way?—Yes, but as I said before, the object with which the trusts are put in the schedule is, that they should be revised; it is an exception that they should be abolished, but they may be revised either under the powers of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, or failing that, or sometimes notwithstanding that, by coming to Parliament for a new Act. One other object of the Continuance Act was, to avoid the very large expense of renewals; 30 years ago, the estimate in one of the reports presented to Parliament was, that the renewals had cost 2,000,000*l.*, or one-fourth of the entire debt. That is only beneficial to Parliamentary agents, whereas in many cases some arrangement might have been made under the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, without an application for a renewal.

86. Do you see any particular difficulty in placing the repairs of turnpike roads upon the districts and parishes through which they run, if this measure were adopted?—Nothing but the expense.

87. Is it not the fact that there is a limit to the amount of money which may be collected in any year under the Highway Act?—Yes.

88. What is the limit?—The highway rate is limited to 2*s.* 6*d.* in the pound.

89. Have you any reason to suppose, from facts within your knowledge, that we must make a special provision in the Bill to enable that amount to be exceeded, in the event of the turnpike trusts being thrown on the rates?—There are cases where that rate would certainly be exceeded if the repairs were thrown on the parishes.

90. Do you see any more speedy way than is suggested in the Bill by which the debt might be more rapidly diminished, or in a less expensive manner, with regard to repairs and improvements; for instance, do you think that any economy might be effected by a legislative provision?—I think that if the repairs of the roads were thrown on the parishes, a better plan than that suggested in the Bill for the payment of the debt would be to allow the present machinery to exist.

91. *Chairman.*] I presume you are aware that by the Bill the tolls are to exist under the orders of the Secretary of State for the Home Department for a certain number of years, applicable towards the payment of the debt?—But they are to be collected by individuals to whom the work would be quite new, and there is a large amount of legislation at present for the guidance of trustees, and for the management of tolls and subjects connected therewith; it seems to me a simple matter, and in fact it is a scheme that has been authorised in some cases in private Acts of Parliament, that the trustees shall collect the tolls and apply them to the payment of the debt, and allow the parishes to repair the roads. I may mention a case where that has been done; the trustees obtained a term of 21 years, I think, but at the present time they have paid off the debt, and they are about midway in their term. The subject has been before the Secretary of State for the Home Department for two or three years, and now it has been decided to repeal their Act of Parliament.

92. Mr. *Sclater-Booth.*] The highway rate is limited to 2*s.* 6*d.* in the pound, you say?—Yes.

93. Is that under the Highway Act of 1862?—No, that Act made no difference in this respect; it is under a previous Act of Parliament.

94. The places which are under Local Government Acts are excepted from that provision, are they not?—Yes.

95. Mr. *Algernon Egerton.*] Is there any limit to the amount of the rate leviable under the Local Government Act?—I am not aware that there is.

96. Mr. *Jasper More.*] Will you be good enough to inform the Committee why those abstracts of turnpike affairs are always in arrear?—They were not in arrear two years last Session.

97. They are in arrear two years now, are they not?—The return for December 1865 is just completed.

98. It is not printed yet, is it?—No; the great difficulty in completing the abstracts consists in revising the returns; in the large number of inquiries and corrections that are required to be made after the returns are received, and in the delay of the clerks in the country in answering letters sent to them.

99. Have you evidence enough now at the Home Office to form an estimate of the value of the debt?—We have no real evidence on the subject, apart from the figures in the report, referring to the sums which have actually been paid off.

100. Colonel *Stuart.*] Have you any idea whether if the money was found at once and offered in bulk as the value at which the debt could be paid off, 50 per cent. would be accepted?—I have no doubt it would be, on an average.

101. Mr. *Welby.*] Do you think that the present rate of payment of the debt per annum is increasing or decreasing?—So far as the accounts are completed, you will find the answer on the 3rd page of the General Report; while in the year 1863 the amount paid for the debt and interest was 26 per cent., in 1864 it was 27 per cent.

102. Colonel *Stuart.*] You have very little doubt, I suppose, that if the trusts were abolished, and the roads thrown on the highway districts, the roads could be much more economically managed, even doing them as well as they are done now; because, suppose a turnpike is in a highway district, there is a separate surveyor for the highway district and for the turnpike road, whereas one surveyor could do the work of the whole district?—I have no doubt there would be a great saving in expense of management: but with regard to the repair of the road I am hardly prepared to give an answer.

103. Have you any idea of the cost that the collection of tolls bears to the aggregate; what per centage of the value is received is wasted in collection. We estimate roughly that each gate costs about 25*l.* per annum in toll collecting salary

Mr. *W. Harrison.*

10 May 1867.

salary; if there are ten gates on a trust, that would be 250 *l.*; how does that bear on the general cost of collection?—I have no data on which to form an opinion, but from what little I can see I should think that is so.

104. So that 25 per cent. is wasted now, so far as the roads are concerned?—Yes.

105. Have you the returns of the Highway Act under you?—Yes.

106. Are not the salaries usually paid to the officers under the Turnpike Act much higher in proportion to the mileage than those paid under the Highway Act?—That I have not looked into.

107. Colonel *French.*] Have you any other explanation to give with regard to the delay in the Home Office except what you mentioned of the revision of the accounts?—The returns up to 1863 I am not responsible for; I know that they were in arrear, but I am not responsible for them. The return for December 1865 is just completed, and it can be presented to Parliament to-morrow; but it is always presented in a printed form, and that will occasion some delay. The returns for the turnpike trusts, I may say, speaking generally, are not obliged to be sent to the Home Office before the 24th of April; that is to say, they are to be sent 30 days after the annual meeting, which is required to be held on or before the 25th of March; but in case the annual meeting is not held, the clerk is required, without having the meeting, to send the return to the Home Office before the 24th of April. The beginning of May is the earliest period at which we can make an application for the return; the second application is made in July or August, and in November, if the returns have not been received, we then ask the Treasury Solicitor to take proceedings.

108. The Committee would wish to know whether there is any principle followed in the Home Office in putting the trusts into the Continuance Act, or allowing the renewal of trusts after the Acts of Parliament have expired?—Wherever a trust has been complained against, it has generally been put into the schedule; and a number of trusts have been selected each year from a number of others whose affairs appear to require revision.

109. Are you not in the habit, where an Act of Parliament has expired, and where the mortgagees have taken possession of the road, of allowing the continuance of the Act solely for the benefit of the mortgagees, and compelling the parishes to pay a rate to keep the roads up?—There are very few trusts where the mortgagees are in possession of the tolls.

110. The mortgagees lend their money on a certain fixed security; that is to say, on an Act of Parliament that was in existence when the money was borrowed?—Yes.

111. And that Act of Parliament expired without the money being paid off?—Yes.

112. In several cases a renewal was applied for, and a renewal was given by Parliament on certain conditions; that is to say, that a portion of the income should be devoted to the payment of the debt?—That has been the mode of procedure in all the recent Acts of Parliament.

113. In very many instances (this condition not being complied with), is it not the case that there has been no payment of the debt, or none in the proportion undertaken in the Act?—There are some such cases I have no doubt.

114. In fact, the money is borrowed on certain property, and it is not paid; but does not the practice of the Home Office give security on another property for the payment of the money, and subject the ratepayers to keep up the road, enabling the mortgagees to apply all the money received for tolls to the payment of interest?—When a trust has obtained a new Act of Parliament, the Secretary of State for the Home Department has very little power over it.

115. You have stated that you consider 50 per cent would pay the debt if paid off at once?—That would be a fair estimate.

116. That would be 2,000,000 *l.* of money on the debt of 4,000,000 *l.* still existing?—Yes.

117. Considering the want of security that all the mortgagees are subjected to, in fact they having no security if the Act of Parliament is put an end to, would not 25 per cent. be sufficient to clear the whole thing off?—I should hardly be prepared to give so low an estimate as an average, because a large amount of the debt would be valued almost at par; there is a large amount paid off at 5 per cent. discount.

118. But they have no security, have they?—They have security in the nature of Acts of Parliament which have not yet expired.

119. Lord *Henley.*] Can you inform the Committee the exact number of trusts placed in the schedule last year?—The number of Acts is 133.

120. How many of those trusts are actually now about to expire?—Half a dozen have not yet been decided upon, but with these exceptions, I think there are about 36 about to expire.

121. Can you give the Committee any account of the circumstances connected with some of the trusts which caused the idea of allowing them to expire to be given up; I suppose when those 133 were put into the schedule there was some idea of their all expiring?—Not at the Home Office, I think.

122. Then why were they put in the schedule?—Many of them were put in because they had not replied to the circular, and therefore limiting the time would have the effect of putting a pressure on them; an answer of this kind would be given, "The Secretary of State can give no opinion on the trust until he obtains certain information."

123. What was the class of information which caused the idea of letting those trusts expire to be given up, and what circumstances led you to continue those trusts?—I think that the circumstances have been briefly alluded to already by the honourable Chairman; among the reasons for continuing the trusts, some have urged special traffic; some have urged the partiality of the abolition; some have urged as a sole reason, that they should be continued until some general legislation has taken place; one of the principal reasons urged has been the additional burden which would be thrown on the parishes, in many places doubling and trebling the present highway rate.

124. Passing from that to another subject, do you remember the cases of any trusts where the debt was being kept up for the purpose of maintaining the trust?—There are such cases.

125. How do you deal with those when they come before the Home Office?—When the debt has been paid off (and we have two or three such cases before us at the present time), we think the Act should be allowed to expire.

126. What

126. What I wish to know is, how you deal with those trusts where the trustees are keeping the debt on in order to maintain the trust?—That is very hard to bring home to the parties. There are instances where we might suspect such to be the case, but we cannot prove it.

127. In fact there are, practically, no such cases before you?—Not when the Act of Parliament is being continued, I think.

128. Now to go to the cases of those trustees who have money in hand applicable to the payment of the debt; I think it is under a clause called the Wisbeach Clause, that the debt is paid off?—There is such a clause.

129. When the trustees are known to have money in their hands applicable to the payment of the debt, does not that make the mortgagees ask a higher rate for their securities than the actual market value?—They could hardly offer to pay off the debt unless they had a balance in hand.

130. But supposing it is known that the trustees have money in their hands which is applicable to the payment of the debt, does not the fact of that being known make the holders of securities ask for a higher rate than the market value?—I am not aware of that, but it is not legal for the trustees to hold money in their hands.

131. They must pay off the debt immediately they have money in hand, must they not?—Yes, the Act requires that when they get 200*l.* in hand they shall do so.

132. Does not the knowledge of that fact make the holders of securities ask for a higher amount than they would sell their securities for in the market?—Possibly.

133. Then if you sought to ascertain the amount of the debt, it should be from the market price of the debt, and not from the amount paid off in that way?—The usual course is for them to say, "Here is so much money; how much debt will you offer to discharge for it?" That is the way they do it.

134. Would not such a creditor as that ask more than what he would ask for the mere transfer of the security to any other person in the market?—Very likely, but he must take his chance with the other creditors; and if another creditor offers to discharge more of the debt than he does, he is paid accordingly.

135. Do you consider that the amount of business in the Home Office is so great, that full consideration cannot be given to the subject of turnpike trusts?—The business for the last two years has been very great.

136. Did you see the Bill brought in last Session proposing to put the subject into the hands of a Commission?—I am not aware of such a Bill having been brought in.

137. Mr. *Whalley.*] What is the title of your department?—It is the Road Department of the Home Office.

138. You are at the head of that department, I suppose?—I am.

139. Is there any person, except yourself, to whom those matters are referred?—Everything is done under the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

140. Then in the consideration of all those questions, they come first under your notice, and you report to the Secretary of State for the Home Department?—Yes.

141. There is no person between you and the Secretary, or Under Secretary of State for the Home Department?—No.

142. In the appropriation of any sum that any trustees may have in hand for the liquidation of the debt, do you take any notice of the manner in which they exercise their discretion in paying off the debt; whether they pay it off at 100 per cent., or whether they take proper means to get rid of it at a greater discount?—The mode of paying off the debt is prescribed by Act of Parliament.

143. Who looks after the fulfilment of the provisions of the Act of Parliament?—The question is very often asked whether such a payment of the debt was in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Parliament.

144. From whom is that question generally asked?—From my department of the office.

145. To the clerk of the trustees, I suppose?—To the clerk of the trustees.

146. Do you accept his answer?—There is no alternative.

147. You do?—Yes.

148. He says that he has acted in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and if he does so you are satisfied?—Yes, we are obliged to be.

149. You institute no other inquiry?—We have no other means to take.

150. With regard to the Acts of Parliament that are contained in the body of the Act, and those that are mentioned in the schedule, what is the difference between them, other than that those in the schedule are publicly notified for discontinuance at the end of the following year; is there any other difference?—The one is continued to the end of the following Session, and those that are in the schedule are limited to the first of November in the following year.

151. But they are all continued?—Yes, for the time being.

152. Then is not the meaning of putting certain of them into the schedule that, unless some special Act of Parliament is obtained or some special cause is shown to the contrary, those trusts will not be continued in the Continuance Act of the next year?—Yes, that is implied.

153. You say that of the 133 so included last year, a certain proportion are merely so notified because you have received no replies?—Yes.

154. How many are in that position?—I cannot say now.

155. But you know, do you not, what took place last year in the House of Commons; do you remember that Mr. Baring replied on one occasion to a question that was put to him, why the Continuance Act was not brought forward at an earlier period than usual, that the Home Office were waiting to receive replies to the applications made to the trustees for the accounts?—I do not remember that he made that answer.

156. When those returns come in, I understand you to say, that it is about two years before they are fully considered, and finally included in the returns?—Hardly so long as that.

157. But at all events they are not considered in time for dealing with them during that Session?—Many of them would not be received until after that Session.

158. And yet you say that the non-receiving of them was the reason for putting certain Acts into the schedule?—When I said that certain trusts were put into the schedule because the

Mr. *W. Harrison.*

10 May 1867.

answers were not received, I alluded to the circulars requiring certain particular information which were sent to the several trusts in February 1866, but those circulars were irrespective of the annual returns.

159. Have you a copy of that circular with you?—No; but I will send one to the Committee.

160. Do you happen to know what was the origin of the practice of scheduling certain trusts and including certain others in the general body of the Act?—I think it began somewhere in the year 1844 or thereabouts.

161. Do you know what was the practice previous to that?—I can only conjecture it to have been that the trustees applied to Parliament and obtained a renewal of their Acts.

162. Have you any reason to suppose that the difference between the practice before the year 1844 and the present practice was, that now in no cases are Acts of Parliament discontinued without the parties having a year's notice, whereas previously to that it was the practice to discontinue them, or to refuse to continue them, merely on the evidence brought before the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for the year?—I should think it was the practice to renew them as a matter of course.

163. You have stated that the reasons for renewing the Acts of Parliament are various, sometimes special traffic, and in other cases the partial abolition of the trusts and the general burden thrown on the parishes. Now to which, if to any, of those circumstances, does the Secretary of State for the Home Department principally give attention; on what principle does the Secretary act. Can you say whether those points which are so brought forward as reasons for renewing the Act, are considered relevant, or whether some of them are so considered and some are not?—All of those reasons would not apply to any single trust.

164. Take the partiality of the abolition. You say that, in addition to all other reasons, it is alleged as a ground for not abolishing a certain trust that by so doing less traffic would be thrown on some adjoining trust, whereby they would be impoverished, and, of course, the burden of the traffic would be thrown more on the parishes through which the roads passed of the trusts which had been abolished?—That would be a reason for continuing the one trust.

165. If a case of that kind were made out, would the Secretary of State for the Home Department consider that a reason for continuing the trust, namely, that the abolition would act injuriously on some other trust more or less remote?—I think that would be a reason.

166. I understood you to say that it has gone so far as this, that the parties are waiting for a general abolition?—That seems to be expected in many parts of the country.

167. Now with regard to special traffic, in what way is that an objection to the abolition of a trust?—In this way: say that a large amount of traffic on the road is mineral traffic, this would not pay adequately towards the wear and tear of the road unless by paying a toll.

168. Is that the case with many trusts?—Not many.

169. Does it ever occur to you, in replying to that objection, that that is a difficulty that happens constantly with regard to parish roads, and, therefore, is not peculiarly applicable to turnpike roads?—A turnpike road would most likely be more of a main road than a parish road.

170. Did it never occur to you to reply that that hardship now existed in different districts with regard to parish roads?—It does so, no doubt, but possibly the mine may not be situated in the township where the rate would fall heavily.

171. Do the returns that you obtain enable you to discover whether there has been a new outlay upon improvements in respect of those trusts which have expired?—The returns show the amounts that are expended in improvements.

172. Then supposing a return showed you that in a trust of which the Act of Parliament has expired there is money being expended in improvements, do you take any and what notice of that?—In several cases word has been sent that the Secretary of State for the Home Department cannot be responsible for the continuance of a trust whose Act of Parliament has expired when the money is spent in improvements, and that the trustees must apply it to the payment of the debt.

173. Do you mean by that, that the Secretary of State for the Home Department will not acknowledge that as a valid reason?—I mean that he will not propose the continuance of the trust by the Continuance Act.

174. Does he act upon that decision?—If the expenditure of money is persevered in he does; but such an intimation as that from the Secretary of State for the Home Department is sufficient to induce the trustees to alter their practice.

175. Do you remember any instance in which the Secretary of State has refused to include in the Continuance Act a trust that has acted in the manner referred to, either after or before an intimation of disapproval from him?—I do know of cases where, after receiving an intimation from the Secretary of State, the trustees have applied the money to the payment of the debt instead of to improvements.

176. Do you know of any case in which the trustees after receiving such an intimation from the Secretary of State have continued to apply the money to the improvement of the roads?—No, I do not know of any such case.

177. Have you any means of knowing whether that has been done or not?—The returns show the amount of money expended in improvements.

178. Can you see whether the returns are inaccurate or not. What means have you of ascertaining if your orders have been complied with in that respect? — By the succeeding annual return.

179. Not otherwise?—No.

180. If it is an inaccurate return, you have no means of ascertaining that?—The returns are examined at the annual meeting of the trustees, and signed by the chairman, and we look upon them as being virtually correct.

181. With regard to the payment of the debts, and the negotiations with the mortgagees, you have no department to correspond with the mortgagees; you leave that entirely to the trustees to carry out for themselves, do you not?—We correspond with the mortgagees through the trustees.

182. Have you any knowledge of the turnpike system in Ireland, or of the operation of the abolition of the tolls in Ireland?—No, I have not looked into that subject.

183. Supposing

183. Supposing there were any correspondence with regard to the turnpike roads that have been released from tolls in Ireland, would that correspondence come before you?—I hardly think it would.

184. You have never had it before you?—No.

185. Mr. *Woodd.*] Can you give the Committee your decided opinion whether in all cases where there is a debt remaining on the road proposed to be paid off, the machinery and powers of the present Act of Parliament should be continued until the debt is paid off, rather than there should be any new system under the control of the local authorities?—It seems to me that under any new scheme it would be desirable to continue the present system, bad as it is, of letting the tolls, and the trustees and their clerks are so well versed in the system, it seems to me that it would involve an additional and needless expense to alter that system.

186. Mr. *Mitford.*] I understood you to state that under our present system, the debt in England and North Wales has been diminished from about seven million pounds in the year 1837, to about half that sum in the year 1864?—In the year 1864 it was 3,942,000*l.*; at the present time I have no doubt it would be between 3,500,000*l* and 3,600,000*l.*

187. That is the actual debt, and not the marketable value?—That is the actual debt.

188. The marketable value would be considerably less, would it not?—A great deal less. In December 1864 the total amount of the debt was 3,942,000*l.*, but according to the return just completed, it has been reduced to 3,790,000*l.* or thereabouts, and therefore at the present time I should say it is possibly 200,000*l.* less than that.

189. So that in fact, in 30 years half the debt has been paid off?—Yes; but there is an item which should not be lost sight of, namely, the amount of money which has been added to the debt in that time; because if no money had been borrowed since the year 1837, the debt would have been much more diminished.

190. In the year 1834 the debt was 6,800,000*l.*, was it not?—Yes.

191. What was it in 1837?—In the year 1837 the debt was 7,011,000*l.*, and speaking approximately, since that year there have been borrowed 780,000*l.*; by adding that sum to the debt, as returned for 1837, and then deducting the present amount, I think you will get the proper amount of reduction.

192. Supposing that we were to go on with the present system, is it not probable that in the course of from 20 to 30 years the whole of the debt would have vanished away without any further legislation on the subject?—I have no doubt that without any legislation on the subject, even 10 years would make a vast difference.

193. But in 20 or 30 years the debt would be absolutely cleared off, would it not?—I think so, supposing that no further sum of money were borrowed.

194. And, in fact, would not the trust fund applicable each year to the payment of the debt, increase by the saving of the interest on the debt paid?—Yes.

195. So that we should be paying off the debt at a more rapid rate than hitherto?—Yes; to corroborate that, I may say that in the year 1864, for the first time, the amount of money applied to the reduction of the debt exceeded that paid for interest.

196. In the new Local Acts now granted by Parliament is it enacted what shall be the first charge on the income of the trust?—It is.

197. What is universally the first charge?—Generally the charges are in this order, first, the payment of the expenses of obtaining the Act; next, the expenses of management; next, the interest; next, a portion of the sum necessary for repairing the roads; and next, applying the surplus to the payment of the debt. The effect in working these out is, that the trust expends a limited amount on the repairs of the road, leaving whatever is required additional to be furnished by the parishes.

198. I thought you said that the interest on the debt was a previous charge to the expense of maintaining the roads?—That is frequently the case, but it varies.

199. It is not uniform?—It is not uniform.

200. It varies, I suppose, in every Local Act at present passed by Parliament?—Yes, it is decided by the Parliamentary Committee.

201. In the Local Acts of Parliament which have been obtained of late years, it is enacted that the duration of the Act should expire with the liquidation of the debt?—That has been frequently enacted, but it is not uniform by any means.

202. Would it not, in your opinion, be better that there should be a uniform system?—No doubt it would be so.

203. Mr. *Clive.*] You stated just now, that if it were not for the additional debt contracted, the reduction would be much greater than it is?—Yes, no doubt.

204. How has that additional debt been contracted, generally speaking?—Sometimes it is for the construction of new roads, and sometimes it is for the effecting of improvements, but the larger portion of that additional debt has been contracted under the express sanction of Parliament.

205. But what is it for; do you know what the expense of obtaining the Act of Parliament is?—It varies.

206. Are you aware what the minimum is?—The minimum may possibly be between 200*l.* and 300*l.* But a case occurred a few years ago where the renewal of one Act of Parliament cost more than 2,300*l*

207. Would that form any portion of the debt?—No, it is the first charge on the cash receipts.

208. But that money would otherwise be applicable to the payment of the debt, would it not?—Yes.

209. You stated that you thought the reduction of the debt would be progressive at the present rate?—Yes.

210. What is your reason for thinking that?—If the present system should continue that would be so, I think, because the payment of interest would be reduced from year to year, and as that is reduced there will be a large surplus applicable to the payment of the debt.

211. Has your attention been called to the evidence of Colonel Pennant and Mr. Wrightson under my Committee of 1864?—I have not looked into that report since it was first presented.

212. You have stated that sometimes a trust

Mr. *W. Harrison.*

10 May 1867.

which should be abolished would be kept up on account of its neighbours? — In some few instances.

213. Would not that be a reason for a general measure?—No doubt.

214. You have stated that the abolition of the trusts would double and treble the present highway rate in some instances?—Yes.

215. Does your calculation apply to a state of things in which the expense of the road falls exclusively on the parish through which the road passes?—Yes.

216. Suppose that were distributed over a larger area, that difficulty would not exist, would it?—No.

217. That reason is another reason for a general measure, is it not?—Yes; there is one case where the reason urged against the abolition of the trust is, that the trustees consider that no district smaller than the entire county ought to bear the expense of the roads, if the tolls were abolished.

218. Those are two reasons for a general measure?—Yes.

219. Then what do you mean by saying that the present machinery ought to continue?—That is supposing the repairs of the road are put on the parishes, and the tolls are continued for the payment of the debt; in that case the present machinery might exist for that purpose alone.

220. Not generally, but only for that purpose?—Just so,

221. You have stated that when a trust has obtained an Act of Parliament, the Secretary of State for the Home Department has very little power; has he any power at all?—Only to call attention to the provisions of the Act.

222. He has no power; he can only inquire?—Just so.

223. How long have you been in this department?—I have had the management of it between three and four years, but I have been in the department 16 years.

224. Were you there when Mr. Redgrave was there?—Yes.

225. Did you ever talk this matter over with him?—No.

226. You are not aware whether your opinions are in unison with his or not?—No, except from the records in the office.

227. Mr. *Knight.*] Do you think that the case would be fairly met if the roads were thrown on the counties, or would not a very large proportion of property be excluded; all England uses those main roads of communication, and yet a great many persons pay no rates at all, or very little, who yet use the road; is not that so?—That is the case, I believe.

228. Do you not think it would be much more justly met if a portion of the expense were thrown on the Consolidated Fund, or thrown simply on real property?—If you are speaking of the repairs of the road, I hardly think that it would be necessary to throw the repairs on the Consolidated Fund.

229. But a portion of them is repaired by a parish rate, is it not?—That would be quite an exception, I think; there might be such cases, but the circumstances of turnpike roads vary so much, that the subject should be looked into very minutely; for instance, the Bill before the Committee proposes where highway districts are in operation that the repairs should be thrown on a district fund; until that is the case is a reason urged in many instances why the trust should be continued, and in most cases that would apply; but in some instances a turnpike road has no value beyond a parish highway, and in these cases it might be thrown on the parishes without injustice; whereas there are cases where the traffic would be of that nature that a portion might perhaps be thrown on the Consolidated Fund.

230. Are you aware whether in South Wales part of the expenses were not thrown on the Consolidated Fund?—I am not aware of that.

231. Supposing the House of Commons decided on the immediate abolition of tolls, and the payment of the debt, do you think that it could be fairly thrown on the parishes?—I have no doubt that that would be considered a very great hardship.

232. But if the county wish to have the debt abolished, no doubt that might be done by Parliament assuming to pay the whole?—No doubt.

233. I suppose that under 2,000,000*l.* would do it?—I have no doubt that about that sum would be sufficient; I had intended to have gone minutely into the question of debt, because a large amount appears to be valueless, or comparatively so at least.

234. But it would not be very difficult, would it, to get an actuary to give a fair valuation of all those debts if Parliament chose to assume them?—Just so.

235. You think that in some cases the roads might fairly be thrown upon the Highway Boards, and in others the expense would be so great that they might require a little assistance from some other source?—Yes.

236. Colonel *French.*] Do you mean to convey to the Committee that the additional expense of maintaining the roads would exceed the 2*s.* 6*d.* rate?—Yes.

237. If the question was put before an actuary, would it not be necessary to put into it, as one item, the real and actual value of the security?—The rate refers to the repair of the road only.

238. No; I am referring to the value of the debts to be paid?—My answer referred to the repair of the road.

239. You have stated that in some cases it would exceed the 2*s.* 6*d.* limit?—Yes.

240. In that case you consider it would be fair, either from the Consolidated Fund or some other source, to get assistance?—Yes, but those instances would be very few.

241. Mr. *Knight.*] But would it be fair on the parishes, for the sake of the two towns between which the road runs, to increase the rate to 2*s.* 6*d.* Do you think that one-eighth of the whole value of the property ought to be taken for the repair of the roads, that may be of very little value to the parish itself?—It would be considered a very great hardship, no doubt.

242. Supposing the turnpike roads were reduced by Parliament, and the debt paid, could any other reasonable or fair way be proposed except the nation taking to the debt and paying it at a valuation?—Considering that many of those roads have been formed for mail traffic in the first instance, I think the fairest mode of disposing of the debt would be to put it on some such fund.

243. Would it not almost appear that if any special property was to be taxed, railway property

perty ought to be taxed, because railways have taken away the tolls?—To apply the principle of compensation, perhaps it would.

244. Colonel *French.*] Could there not be such a thing as a rate on the county at large without coming on the Consolidated Fund?—That would be very fair, I think.

245. Mr. *Knight.*] But that would apply wholly to real property, omitting all persons who have very little or none, would it not; it would almost exclude such places as mines, foundries, iron works, and other manufactories, and all stock in trade?—I think that only a portion ought to be thrown on the county rate.

246. Do you mean a portion on personal property and stock in trade, and a portion on the county at large?—Just so.

247. Mr. *Sclater-Booth.*] What was the name of the place from which you had that answer from the trustees, that they thought the whole county should contribute to the repairs of the road?—It is a trust in Gloucestershire; I am not sure whether it does not extend into the neighbouring counties, but the first bridge over a river in the locality is the road over which passes all the traffic from South Wales.

248. What is the name of the trust?—I think it is the Over Trust in Gloucestershire, but I am not quite sure.

249. Mr. *Clive.*] Have you looked at the evidence with regard to the reduction of debt given in the former Committee by Mr. Leslie, your predecessor?—Not recently.

250. I put to him the question, "Have you any idea at what rate that reduction is likely to go on; do you think it is likely to go on at the same rate?" and he answered, "Hardly, I think, because the worst trusts have been already dealt with." That rather differs from your opinion, does it not?—The amount of money applied to the debt will increase, I think, although possibly the reduction in the total amount of the debt may not go on at the same ratio as it has done, at the same time there are some trusts which, when dealt with, will make a large reduction in the debt, their debts being valueless.

251. Mr. *Whalley.*] You have stated that there was a clause introduced into some local Acts of Parliament contemplating a general Act upon the subject, the trust taking their powers subject to such general legislation. Will you be kind enough to give the Committee a reference to that clause?—Any Local Turnpike Act will show it; it is a standing clause to this effect: "This Act shall not be exempt from the provisions of any general Act which may be passed in this Session or in any future Session."

252. With regard to the payment of the debt, I will take a case within my own knowledge of a trust that was very nearly out of debt that entered into litigation, the result of which was that they had to pay costs exceeding 2,000 *l.*; now, when that would be returned to you as outlay for law costs, would you take any notice of it or not; would you ask for any further justification of such an outlay?—I think we should; and, if for no other purpose, to attach a note to the return to be laid before Parliament.

253. Have you any machinery or any mode of ascertaining the fact, supposing it to be the fact, that such an outlay was very needlessly incurred, and in fact for the purpose of appropriating the money in hand otherwise than in the payment of the debt?—We should not be aware of that unless the trust were memorialised against by some one.

254. Is there any instance in which you have assisted parties in a district in bringing the facts before you, either in resisting the Continuance Act or otherwise, or have they to bear the expense entirely out of their own pockets; I mean, have you the power of ordering that any portion of the expenses of investigating the condition of a trust shall be paid out of the funds of that trust or otherwise?—There is no power of that kind.

255. Therefore, the parties who memorialise or apply for a new Act of Parliament have to bear the costs entirely out of their own pockets?—Yes.

256. Suppose there were to be no further legislation, do you think it would be reasonable that such expenses should be otherwise defrayed, either out of the trust fund or otherwise; I mean where a complaint turned out to be well founded?—I can hardly give an opinion on that point.

257. *Chairman.*] You have spoken of its being desirable to deal generally with the question?—Yes.

258. The circumstances of the trusts vary very much, do they not?—Very much indeed.

259. Are you aware, as a matter of fact, that a vast majority of the existing Acts of Parliament will expire within 12 or 13 years from this time?—They will, unless they are renewed.

260. You have not read the figures which I stated in the House of Commons, perhaps?—I have read them, but not within the last day or two.

261. So that any inconvenience to the localities from one trust being abolished, if the adjoining one remained, would diminish year by year?—It would.

262. Do you know how many Acts have been discontinued within the last two or three years, is it a considerable number?—Until within the last three years there have not been many trusts expired.

263. With regard to the diminution of the debt, is not it the fact that there has been increased activity on this subject at the Home Office during the time which has elapsed since the year 1837?—Yes, there has been quite a new state of things.

264. Is not it the fact that in the diminution of the debt you must take a very large sum to account of debt and arrears extinguished by order of the Secretary of State for the Home Department?—Yes.

265. Therefore you must not take the whole of that sum to the credit of good management in reducing the debt, but you must take into account bad trusts coming before the Secretary, who by a Provisional Order has extinguished the same?—By the arrangements made by the Secretary of State for the Home Department and trusts applying to Parliament, the debt extinguished between the years 1850 and 1865 amounted to 406,000 *l.*, and the arrears of interest extinguished amounted to 1,423,000 *l.*

266. Bearing a very large proportion to the sum total of the debt reduced?—Yes.

267. Supposing there was no fresh legislation, do you think that the bondholder would stand a better chance of getting his money than under the provisions of this Bill?—In many cases he would not.

 268. But

Mr. *W. Harrison.*
10 May 1867.

268. But in the majority of the cases would he not come under the almost arbitrary authority of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, as the Acts of Parliament expired?—I can hardly say in what proportion, but there are a great many trusts where the debt would be of very little value.

269. You have stated that last year there were 133 Acts, in the schedule of which only about 36 were to be allowed to expire?—Yes.

270. Is there not, therefore, a very great element of uncertainty with regard to the condition of the bondholder, and the condition of the trust?—Yes, and I think that uncertainty has existed ever since the subject has received the serious attention of Parliament. I think the reports presented to Parliament from time to time, have been paving the way for some general measure.

271. Are you aware that the following passage occurred in the Report of the Committee of 1864, referring to the trusts which were out of debt, and which came under the operation of the Continuance Act: "Your Committee suggests that such trusts should be excluded from the operation of the Continuance Act, and be obliged to come to Parliament for a renewal of their Acts"?—I am aware of that.

272. Then if any person largely increased the schedule and placed a greater number of Acts in the schedule, the trusts having expired and their debt having come to an end, he was acting in strict conformity with the recommendations of that Committee?—Yes.

273. Then that was a warning to trusts out of debt, and to all trusts that there was a growing disposition on the part of Parliament to tend towards the abolition of the turnpike system?—It was.

274. With regard to the delay at the Home Office, that is really caused not so much in the office itself as by the fact that the abstract which you have to make up has to be compiled from innumerable small records from different parts of the country which cannot be made up before a certain date?—Yes.

275. With regard to any increased business which might be thrown on the Home Office by this or any similar Bill, that might be met by increasing the staff, might it not?—Yes.

276. And the expense to the country of such appointments would be very much less than the expense which the turnpike system produces?—Very much less.

277. You spoke of trebling the highway rate; I wish to ask you whether ever, or except in very rare instances, there has been a probability of the trebling of the highway rate by the throwing of the turnpikes on the parishes?—Of course my observation applied only so far that instances would occur in which the highway rate would be trebled, while at the same time I have pointed out to the Under Secretary of State that in some of those instances the present highway rate was very low. There is a case in my mind now where the cost of repairing the turnpike road would have the effect of quadrupling the highway rate, and it is just a question whether such a case should be put on the highway rate under existing circumstances.

278. What data do you go upon in calculating the increase of the highway rate; do you take the amount now expended on the turnpike road per mile and add that?—We do not take it at per mile, because the cost would vary.

279. But you take the expense of the turnpike road as a basis?—We do.

280. As in a great many agricultural districts the parishes would not think it necessary to maintain the turnpike roads in a better condition than the present highways, would not the expense be materially reduced?—Yes.

281. That ought to be deducted, then?—Yes; but then the satisfaction with the present roads would be diminished also; the roads would be allowed to fall out of repair.

282. But there are many good highways which are very inferior to a turnpike road, but good enough for parochial purposes?—Yes, they are good enough for parochial purposes.

283. It was proved before the Committee of 1864 that instead of the through traffic, for which those roads were, perhaps, originally constructed, they are very much used for local purposes?—No doubt.

284. Is it not the case that they might be maintained at a much less cost, and in a state perfectly fit for local purposes?—In many instances that would be so, but in many districts a turnpike road is of much more importance than a parish road, and therefore it would be required to be kept in a better state.

285. Do you not think that there is a natural tendency on the part of parish authorities, who only see before them the immediate effect of an Act of Parliament which would raise their rates, to forget that they must take off the amount paid by them in tolls?—It would affect them according to their share of the traffic.

286. But the persons who paid the greatest amount of rates would often be the persons who paid the greatest amount of tolls, would they not?—It might be so.

287. Mr. *Knight.*] But very often the persons living in towns would not pay any additional rate?—Just so.

288. *Chairman.*] With regard to getting the fundholders to pay those expenses, do you suppose that the fundholders contribute any material portion of the tolls of the kingdom?—I have no means of knowing that.

289. Must a fundholder not be a resident in the county before he travels on the road at all?—I suppose so.

290. You have hinted that it was desirable to allow the present machinery of the trustees to continue for paying off the debt by tolls?—Yes.

291. I presume you are aware that, under the proposed Bill, the order of the Secretary of State for the Home Department having fixed the time at which the Trust Act should expire, the tolls are to be continued during that time, applicable in the first instance to the payment of the debt by instalments fixed by the Secretary of State?—Yes.

292. Do you not think that if that same principle was adopted, and the trustees, and the present machinery was continued instead of leaving it to the local authorities, there would be a double set of officers in some localities which would be avoided by the Bill?—The necessity for employing a surveyor would, I expect, be entirely obviated.

293. How would it be obviated if the trustees are to have the whole management of the roads, side by side with the local authorities, having the

the management of the highways; that must be a matter of arrangement between the trustees and the local authorities, must it not?—I take my idea from what has actually been done by Parliament; they have continued a local Act for the purpose of paying the debt, but they have not made any provision for the repair of the road, which has consequently been thrown on the rates.

294. A question was asked you by an honourable Member whether many persons did not use the road who do not pay, or would not pay anything if the proposed Act was adopted?—Yes.

295. But is it not the fact now that an indefinite number of persons use the highway who do not contribute a farthing?—No doubt.

296. In short, the inequalities of the system are so great, that a general measure would be necessary, the principle of abolition having been recognised by Parliament?—Yes.

297. The circumstances vary under different trusts?—Very much.

298. That is what makes any general measure difficult, is it not?—Very much so.

299. Do you not think, taking the necessity of abolition to have been recognised by Parliament, that that would be a wise general measure which should give an intervening year before it came into active operation, so that during that time any localities which had claims of exemption to urge, would have an opportunity of urging them before Parliament?—Yes.

300. You are aware that that would be the case under the Bill?—I take that view of the subject.

301. So far as you can judge from your connection with the Home Office, is the principle of this measure an advisable one?—My opinion is, that it will help very much to obviate the objections hitherto made against abolition.

302. Mr. *Woodd.*] Practically you have no doubt that the expenses of maintaining the roads should rather be thrown on the districts than on individual parishes?—That has been urged in several memorials, and that is my opinion.

303. Mr. *Mitford.*] When a county is not divided into districts, have you ever considered what is the best arrangement to make for that purpose?—I should think the best thing would be to adopt the Highway Act.

304. But if they do not think fit to do so, what then?—That would be a very difficult question to answer.

305. Mr. *Knight.*] Suppose they see that the Highway Act has affected badly the rest of the county, it would be very unfair to press them to adopt it, would it not?—The Act when first adopted might be a little misunderstood, and might not get into proper working order, but I can show that where the Highway Act has been acted upon and had proper attention given to it an actual saving has been effected.

306. But suppose that the ratepayers could show in the same way that in many parts of their own county it was acting very badly; that the rates were raised and the roads not better, it would be unfair to press them to adopt the Act until it was proved to be good, would it not?—A system may be good, but badly carried out.

307. Mr. *Woodd.*] Your inference would be, that it was not properly worked in those cases?—Yes.

308. Mr. *Knight.*] But do you not think that the Act should be altered so as to become a good working Act, before it is forced on a county?—It is capable of improvement, no doubt.

309. *Chairman.*] Suppose there were many districts where the Act worked well, and the expenses were reduced, would it not be a natural theory that where it did not work well, it was owing to the mistakes of those who had charge of it?—That is my view.

310. With regard to the cost of collection and management, have you made any estimates from the figures before you?—I have not.

311. That must be to some extent a matter of speculation, as it varies very much in the different trusts?—No doubt, but a general idea may be gathered from this report; say that the toll income was 1,009,000*l.* in 1864, the expenditure was 57 per cent. for repair of roads; 10 per cent., or rather more, for salaries and law charges; 27 per cent. for debt and interest, and nearly five per cent. for other payments

312. That gives you 10½ per cent. for salaries of officers, including the law charges for that year, but it does not take into account anything for the cost of collection?—No.

313. And it does not take into consideration the expense of renewal of the different Acts of Parliament, which must be spread over an average of years?—That will be included in the 10½ per cent. salaries and law charges.

314. But suppose an Act of Parliament is passed in one year for the renewal of a trust which costs 1,000*l.*, that charge would appear until it was paid, which would not be very long; but would it not appear four or five years afterwards in the return?—This charge would apply only to one year.

315. The law charges vary according to the number of Acts applied for yearly, do they not?—That is so.

316. Mr. *Whalley.*] Are you aware on the question of repair of roads that economy and good roads are identical; that it does not follow because roads are to be kept up well, that therefore they should cost more in keeping up, but the reverse?—In many cases the traffic would be greater on turnpike roads than on parish highways.

317. But it would not cost more to keep a road in good order than in bad order; on the contrary, a bad road means an expensive road?—The more traffic there is on a road, the more expense there is, because of the wear and tear.

318. You have no practical knowledge of road making, I suppose?—No; but I have instances before me where a surveyor from being connected with three or four trusts, can buy the materials wholesale, and can therefore manage each trust more economically.

319. Have you sufficient knowledge to answer this question: that with regard to economy there is room for the employment of great skill and experience in road making?—I believe that to be so.

320. Mr. *Mitford.*] Do you know the average cost per mile of repairing turnpike roads throughout England?—I have not made that calculation.

321. Do you happen to know how much it is on parish roads?—I have never made that calculation.

322. Have you any means of ascertaining that?—Only with regard to the roads under the high-

Mr. *W. Harrison.*

16 May 1867.

way districts. Under the new Act the Secretary of State requires the mileage to be stated.

323. But under the old system an annual report is made to the magistrates of the expense of each parish road?—Yes.

324. Is not a return of that sent in to the Home Office?—No.

325. Is it not the case that when Local Acts are renewed by Parliament the Secretary of State for the Home Department consents to the renewal only on the understanding that the whole arrear of unpaid interest be settled for?—If the trust applies for a renewal he has no power to interfere.

326. But he would interfere, would he not, unless the mortgagees consented to an arrangement, that arrangement being that they shall give up the whole of the arrears?—As a general rule, where there are large arrears they are required to be given up.

327. Is that universal?—There are some cases where the amount is small, and where for some special reason the small amounts are not extinguished.

328. *Chairman.*] Is there anything that you would like to add to your evidence?—I think not.

Tuesday, 14th May 1867.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sir Robert Anstruther.
Sir Michael Hicks Beach.
Mr. George Clive.
Mr. Algernon Egerton.
Colonel French.
Mr. Goldney.
Lord Henley.
Mr. Holland.
Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen.
Mr. Knight.
Mr. Mitford.
Mr. Jasper More.
Mr. Read.
Mr. Hastings Russell.
Mr. Sclater-Booth.
Col. William Stuart.
Mr. Welby.
Mr. Whalley.

EDWD. H. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Esq., in the Chair.

The Rev. John Pearson, called in; and Examined.

The Rev. *J. Pearson* 14 May 1867.

329. Mr. *Knight.*] You are the Rector of Suckley in Worcestershire are you not?—I am.

330. And you have been for a good many years a Magistrate of the county, I believe?—Yes.

331. I think you have been for a very long time Chairman of the Worcester Turnpike Board?—Yes, for many years.

332. And you have been Chairman of the Martley Highway Board since its formation?—Yes.

333. What is the date of the formation of the Worcester Trust?—It is the 12th of Geo. 3, I believe, and we have had several subsequent Acts.

334. The trust is divided into eight districts, is it not?—Yes.

335. What officers have you, and what are their salaries?—We have a surveyor at 250 *l.* a-year; a clerk at 105 *l.* a-year; and we have a sub-surveyor at 65 *l.* a-year.

336. What has been the annual income from tolls for the last three years, and what has been the annual expenditure?—The annual income has been about 7,600 *l.*, and the annual expenditure about 7,400 *l.*

337. What per-centage are the establishment charges?—The establishment charges would not amount to more than 4¾ per cent. with us last year; they are very low. I am not, of course, speaking of the collection, but merely of the officers.

338. There is only one of those districts in debt, I believe?—There is only one in debt; we have had eight districts, which are quite separate and distinct for all financial purposes.

339. Do the tolls of that district produce a surplus towards the liquidation of the debt?—No, there is a deficiency, we have to go to the parishes; we cannot pay off any part of the principal of the debt, and we go to the parishes, to enable us to pay off the interest and to maintain the roads.

340. What is the average cost per mile of your roads?—Last year it was 51 *l.* a mile; the average for the last three years would be 45 *l.* or 46 *l.*

341. Are the parishes through which the roads pass in highway districts?—Some of them are; a large number of them are; perhaps, about half.

342. Do you suppose that the tolls are paid by the same districts as the ratepayers generally live in?—I consider that others, besides the ratepayers, pay a large portion of the tolls.

343. I think that one of your turnpike districts costs a great deal more per mile than the others?—Yes; one is much more expensive than the others.

344. What does that expense amount to?—Last year it was 99 *l.* per mile.

345. What is the length of that district?—Ten miles.

346. If this Bill passed as it now stands, would it throw a very heavy burden on some of those parishes?—A very heavy burden.

347. What would be the heaviest burden that it would throw on some of those parishes?—It would throw on one small parish, Knightwich, 2 *s.* 5 *d.*, or very nearly 2 *s.* 6 *d.*

348. In addition to the present highway rate?—In addition to the present highway rate. In another small parish it would throw a burden of 2 *s.*, and in the remaining parishes it would throw more than 1 *s.* 6 *d.* There are five parishes which would have to support the entire 10 miles.

349. It would bring them to a higher rate than they can be charged under the highway rate?—Certainly; in one, and I think two, it would bring it up to 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, or rather more.

350. Have you an increasing difficulty in getting materials in your trust?—Yes, a very great difficulty in some parts of it.

351. Is that difficulty greater than formerly?—Much greater.

352. What is the population of Worcester?—It is about 33,000.

353. Is it situated pretty centrally in the middle of your trust?—It is.

354. Are the roads in the suburbs much used by the traders in the city?—Yes, very much.

355. Do they pay any tolls?—Yes, they pay a large sum in tolls.

The Rev. *J. Pearson.*

14 May 1867.

356. Which they would not have to pay if the turnpikes were removed?—No, they would have to pay no rate if it was thrown on the parishes, because they have a rate of their own in the city.

357. Is it not the fact that you have considerable protection to the roads from the turnpike system, with regard to their being fairly used by builders and others who send heavy weights along them?—Yes, from some of the provisions of our Act of Parliament there is a certain protection, and even from the general Act with regard to the width of the wheels; but we have a specific protection in that respect, and we have also the protection that any building material which is carried in the winter months between the 1st of October and the 1st of April, shall pay double toll.

358. I believe there is protection also against more than a certain amount being put on the cart?—That is from the general Turnpike Act.

359. There would be no such protection if the turnpikes were removed, would there?—No, of course the weighing machines would be removed too.

360. In the event of a large house or church being built within a few miles of Worcester, and the tolls being abolished, would not the injury to the roads be very much greater than it is now?—I should suppose it would be very much greater. The carriage of materials would probably take place chiefly in the winter months, because haulage is cheaper than in the summer; they would avail themselves of their release from their liability, because now, except by paying double tolls, they cannot haul in the winter months.

361. Have you observed on any of your roads that the cost of maintaining the roads near Worcester is much greater than at a distance from the city?—Yes, three or four times as great as in some of the districts.

362. Your roads run up to Great Malvern, do they not?—Yes.

363. What would be the effect of the abolition of tolls on the parishes in the immediate locality of Malvern?—We should lose a large revenue. There are a great many pleasure visitors for four or five months in the year, and, of course, a great many excursion trips, which now pay a very large toll.

364. Suppose your eight districts were amalgamated, what sum would it take from the surplus income of the whole trust to pay off the debts of the one district that is in debt?—We could pay the whole debt off very well in seven or eight years.

365. What is the amount of the debt?—£. 2,150 on one district.

366. What is the amount of the mortgage debts of 1850, 1855, 1860, and 1865?—It has decreased very much.

367. You have had great experience in quarter session courts; do you think that the court would act generally on the Compensation Clause given in this proposed Bill?—I should suppose not; I do not think that our court would take upon themselves the responsibility of forming a judgment with regard to what parish was heavily burdened and which was not; many would be so nearly equally burdened. Some of the poor parishes might have a less burden, so far as the actual rate goes, than a rich parish, and yet not be so able to bear it. We should not be well able to form any real judgment with regard to whether it was advisable to give assistance out of the county rates or not, even if advisable at all.

368. Do you think that the turnpike roads would be maintained at all in the condition in which they are now if they were thrown on the parishes?—No, not in the condition they are now, certainly.

369. Do you think, from your knowledge of the circumstances, that it would be considered fair to abolish the turnpikes and to divide the debt and the cost of keeping up the roads on the parishes, as is proposed in this Bill?—I think it would be very unfair.

370. What is the general feeling in Worcestershire with regard to this subject; is it in favour or against abolishing the turnpikes and throwing the cost on a larger area?—There is probably a divided feeling so far as the county and the city goes; I should say that the county would be very much opposed to it.

371. Have you formed an opinion as to what would be a satisfactory way of settling the debt?—There is a very great difficulty in the subject, if you abolish the turnpike debt, in fixing what the alternative should be; I should suppose that the fairest way, of paying off the debt would be to throw it on the property through which the turnpike roads pass, assisted, as I think that property ought to be, it should not be a rate on the occupying tenants; the landlord should be assisted from the Consolidated Fund. If turnpikes were abolished at once compulsorily, and the debt thrown on the rates, then the power which throws it on them ought to assist them in paying off the debt.

372. And if the debt is extinguished either by being paid off suddenly or by being paid off after a term of years, do you think it right that the parishes should take entirely, without any assistance, to the maintenance of the roads?—I think it would be very unfair indeed.

373. What should you propose instead of that. It was proposed before the last Committee on Turnpikes that it should be thrown on the counties or the highway districts, or on the parishes, and the Committee negatived all those suggestions; do you think that either of those plans would be good, if assisted in the way you point out?—I am no great advocate of an entire change myself, but I think, supposing the turnpike trusts were abolished, there would be only two modes of dealing with the roads, either by throwing them on the county or by throwing them into highway districts; we know that in most counties the highway districts have not been formed throughout the county; in Worcestershire we have only part of the county formed into highway districts, and, if you throw the roads now on the highway districts, you would throw the expenses on individual parishes, just as you would on parishes not formed into highway districts; but if highway districts were formed generally and compulsorily (I do not say that they should be), then probably the most practical mode of repairing the roads would be to incorporate them in the highway districts, which would be better than making them a county affair altogether, except on this ground, that if you make it a county rate, there would be some portions of the county, the towns for instance, which, under certain Acts of Parliament, now pay to the county rate, and which would then have to bear their portion of the liability. Malvern, for instance, though it now pays to the general

general county rate, pays nothing at all to the turnpike roads; they repair their own roads, and consequently if they were thrown on the districts, Malvern, not being in any district, would escape all the liability. Suppose it was thrown on the counties, as they come under the general county assessment, they would probably have to bear their proportion of the expense.

374. Does the city of Worcester pay a county rate?—No.

375. Then no settlement of your trust would be fair unless the city of Worcester paid its share, as the traders in Worcester cause so much of the expenses of the road?—There is no doubt that the expenses of some roads about Worcester are enormously increased by the traffic from the city of Worcester.

376. And the road between Worcester and Malvern is very much used by persons who have nothing to do with the parishes or highway districts that lie between?—Yes, very much indeed, even though there is a railroad.

377. Do you think that the general taxation of the county should be in any way made to assist in the maintenance of those roads which have been made for the use of the towns, and dwellers in the towns, and the general public more than by the agriculturists and the inhabitants of the highway districts?—I think that would only be fair; if there was a division made between the landlords and the ratepayers, and likewise there was an instalment from the Consolidated Fund that might be a fair arrangement. I think it would be very unfair to throw it all on the rates. Formerly, those roads were removed from the superintendence of the ratepayers, and they became no longer responsible for their maintenance; they were thrown into turnpike trusts, because, I suppose, it was considered unjust that the entire burden should be thrown on the ratepayers, and likewise in order to make better roads; it would be very unfair that now you should throw the entire burden on the ratepayers, who were formerly relieved of it. We know that there is a division now made in the county rates in the gaol management, the support of convicts, police, and other matters which are thought of national importance; and we are assisted with regard to some portions of them from the Consolidated Fund.

378. You think that the same thing ought to be extended to turnpike roads between great towns, if they are thrown on the county?—Yes, certainly, they are of general importance; you may say, of Imperial importance, they are called the Queen's highways.

379. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say that, in your trust you find the tolls are insufficient, and that you have to go to the parishes to maintain the roads?—In one district that is the case.

380. Would that district be worse off under this Bill?—I do not think that this Bill would be applicable to that district at all; it is applicable to trusts, but not to districts, I think.

381. You are aware that the annual interest of the debt is, in the majority of the Trust Acts, the first charge on the tolls after the payment of management?—Yes.

382. Where the toll income is sufficient, a portion of the principal debt is from time to time paid off from the same source?—Yes.

383. Then, if by this Bill the tolls and the debt are to co-exist and to terminate together, is any fresh liability imposed on the parishes, so far as the debt is concerned?—Are you speaking now of this particular district?

384. No, I am speaking of the districts generally?—I must remark, however, with regard to our one district of Losemoor, that this Bill would not apply at all; first, it is merely a district, and not a trust, and this Bill applies to trusts alone; nor would this Bill apply to this district, even if you could call Losemoor a trust; because, by the clause of that Bill, the calculation of the debt, and the calculation of the payment is to be based on the surplus revenue of that trust for the last three years. Now, there is no surplus revenue on the Losemoor district; so far from there being a surplus revenue, we cannot pay off a shilling of the principal, and cannot pay the interest even, and repair the roads without going on the parishes.

385. You think that the debt is worth very little, if anything?—Certainly, in the present aspect of things, it is not very valuable.

386. Would it not be better to get rid of it by an Act of Parliament than to go on in this way?—No; I think it would be the most honest and honourable principle that we should amalgamate our eight districts, which have a surplus revenue to pay off this debt by degrees.

387. That is to say, you would marry a bankrupt trust to a solvent one?—There is a legal power to amalgamate in a case like this, the other districts would not be injured, they would have no means of applying the surplus revenue in any other way than paying this debt.

388. Solvent trusts might make some little objection probably to being wedded to a bankrupt trust?—I very much doubt if they would.

389. Will you be kind enough to explain to the Committee what you meant when you spoke of the district as distinct from a trust; is not that district under the same Trust Act, or how do you levy the tolls?—It is under the same Act as the other districts.

390. It is all under one Act of Parliament?—Yes; by the Act of Parliament the trust is divided into eight districts, which financially, are kept distinct; but we have the same surveyor and staff generally, and the same management in every way.

391. Now will not the parties who pay the tolls hereafter on which the debt is to be charged be the same as those who now pay them?—They would be some of the same parties but not all the same parties who now pay the tolls.

392. But do you know the principle of the Bill to be the charging of the debt on the rates of the districts or parishes while the tolls are maintained for a specified time and applicable in the first instance to the payment of the debt by instalments?—Yes, it is a very great hardship on the parishes that they should have to pay tolls and have to pay the debt also.

393. Do they not at the present time pay tolls, the first charge on which is applicable to the payment of the debt; and if those tolls are insufficient to give any surplus for the repair of the roads, do you not fall back for the repair of the roads on the rates?—That now is unavoidable, and it is to a very small extent; it would not be the same if you had to pay the whole of the debt and likewise the tolls.

394. But instead of having a large amount of nominal debt hanging over the trust with the uncertainty whether Parliament will continue the Trust Act with a view to the ultimate liquidation or reduction of the debt, would it not be better

The Rev. *J. Pearson.*

14 May 1867.

that the toll-payers should have the actual market value of the debt ascertained and its liquidation at a reduced amount within a given time provided for?—It would be very proper to ascertain the value of the bonds, but it would be a far better plan that we should pay our own debt by the amalgamation of the eight districts.

395. You have stated that the cost of maintaining the roads near Worcester is far greater than it is at a distance from Worcester?—Yes, in some directions particularly.

396. Is the land near Worcester more valuable than it is at a distance?—No doubt.

397. Then the existence of the town is a considerable advantage to the value of the land in the vicinity?—No doubt, but I do not think it follows that our road should be injured, without compensation, by the traffic in certain districts, while in other districts out of Worcester, where the land is equally valuable, our expenses are not increased, and there is comparatively little additional traffic; there are some districts in which the increase of expense near Worcester is not perceivable at all, and other districts where it is trebled or even increased to a greater extent.

398. The town of Worcester lights and paves its own streets, does it not?—Yes.

399. The agricultural districts do not contribute to that, do they?—No.

400. Do you think as a matter of fact there is more heavy traffic coming from the county into Worcester than goes from Worcester into the county?—The most damaging traffic comes from the city into the county; the traffic that enters the city travels over some half-a-mile of the streets; the traffic that passes from the city goes over, perhaps, half-a-dozen or a dozen miles of turnpike road, and does more damage on the turnpike road in the county than the traffic from the county inflicts on the city roads.

401. What is the peculiar traffic from Worcester into the county?—There is a good deal of building material hauled, and many very large mills; the millers haul to a very great extent indeed; and there are bricks, and so on.

402. When it goes from Worcester into the country, for what purpose does it go?—For the purpose of being applied to the use of the place where it is being taken to.

403. For building?—Yes, if it is building material.

404. Every building erected in the country confers some benefit on the district where it is erected, does it not?—No doubt; but it does not necessarily follow, because the traffic in a certain district is very great, that the value of property in that district has increased to a greater extent than the value of property in other districts out of Worcester in which there is comparatively little traffic. I could instance that very forcibly to Honourable Members who are acquainted with the neighbourhood; the traffic in the Powick district and the Bransford district is four-fold as great near Worcester as 10 miles from Worcester. If, on the other hand, you go into the Barbourne district, through Claines, you find the expenses of the road not increased at all, although the value of property in Claines is quite as great as in the other districts in which there is great damage done by traffic from the city.

405. You have told the Committee that the debt had decreased from the year 1850 to the year 1865?—Very much decreased.

406. Is that on account of the good management of the trust moneys, or is it a great deal in consequence of the application of the Act of 1850?—I apprehend it is because the traffic has been large, and our tolls have been rather high in some districts when compared with the traffic; we have reduced our tolls, having paid our debt on those districts so rapidly; upon some of our eight districts our tolls are only half what they are in other districts.

407. But has the power given to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, under the Act of 1850, to make a provisional order in certain cases for extinguishing arrears, been applied at all?—Yes.

408. That has reduced the debt materially, has it not?—Yes, but we should have paid off our debts without its application, except on Losemore district.

409. Mr. *Knight.*] I believe that your debt has been reduced from 16,000 *l.* in 1850, to 2,000 *l.* in 1865?—Yes.

410. *Chairman.*] You made an arrangement, having obtained the consent of two-thirds of the mortgagees to that effect?—We paid off the full debt.

411. You have stated that if the roads were thrown on the parishes, you are of opinion that they would not be maintained in the same condition as the turnpikes are now?—No.

412. They would, however, be maintained at a less expense than the turnpikes are now, because, if they were maintained at the same expense they would be maintained in the same condition?—In a certain sense that would be so. I have given the reasons why the expenses would be increased; there would be full power to haul any weight at any time of the year, and to use what wheels they pleased, and although the roads would, properly speaking, if we had the same advantages, be kept up more cheaply, they would not be kept up so well under the highway system or any other system, the expenses would be very little, if at all, decreased, because there would be so much more hauling at improper seasons with narrow wheels, and our material is decreasing in many parts of the trust.

413. Would it not be an advantage that the ratepayers should have the control of any expenditure on the roads in their districts, so that it would be within their power to reduce the expenditure in many instances?—If they reduced the expenditure very much, they would injure the roads.

414. Do you not hold that the economical management and good roads may go together?—Undoubtedly, but not always.

415. Do you consider that the tollpayers principally consist of the ratepayers of the district?—The ratepayers of course pay a large portion of the tolls.

416. But you do not think they are identical?—Certainly not, because we have still some through traffic; and in the neighbourhood of Worcester there is a vast deal of traffic from the city by people who are not ratepayers. Their business premises are in the city, and they cut up the roads, but they pay no rates.

417. If the ratepayers and the tollpayers are not the same, then the ratepayers would continue to receive towards the payment of the debt extraneous assistance, because the Bill provides that the toll shall last as long as the debt lasts?—No doubt, for 10 years.

418. Will not it be an advantage to the bondholders

holders that they should know the value of their debt and have it settled at once, instead of taking their chances as they do now?—I believe in our own district the bonds have never been depreciated. I believe they have trusted to a payment of some kind, knowing that the trust was rather a wealthy trust, and believing that those who borrowed the money would be fairly liable to pay it off in some way.

419. Do you not know that legally every bondholder lends his money on a terminable security?—Yes.

420. Are you aware that considerably more than half the existing trusts are only kept alive from year to year by the Continuance Act, and that they may at any time be terminated by the will of the Secretary of State?—Yes.

421. And when they do so terminate the parishes, under the present law, are liable to repair the roads?—Yes.

422. Does not that state of things require the application of some general legislative principle?—Unquestionably; but I think that before the tolls are abolished there should be some proper provision, some enactment making a uniform provision for the maintenance of the roads which there is not at present.

423. You think that the application of the Highway Act should precede the dealing with the turnpikes?—Certainly.

424. Then if it was pointed out to you that the abolition of turnpike tolls might pave the way to the application of the Highway Act, you would still maintain the opinion that one should be dealt with before the other?—It would, in my opinion, be very injurious to the interests of many localities to pass any Act of Parliament similar to this, before a proper provision was made for the maintenance of the roads, which would be thrown on individual parishes, whether those parishes were in highway districts or not.

425. Would it alter your opinion if it was proposed that instead of throwing the roads on individual parishes where highways did not exist, they should be thrown on an union area?—It would modify it very much; it would diminish the intensity of the evil, and the injustice to individual parishes; it might be extending the injustice to a larger area, though in a modified shape, if there were no assistance from the Consolidated Fund.

426. When one trust is abolished, and another is existing in its neighbourhood, there is some injustice, is there not, owing to the avoidance of the tolled roads, and the using of the non-tolled roads by travellers?—Yes.

427. By the evidence given before this Committee, it appears that in the year 1864 there were 1,085 trusts in existence; and that in November next, there will be 985, and therefore 100 tolls have ceased to exist within the last three years?—Yes, I knew that was about the number.

428. Therefore, any injustice arising to one district from the abolition of tolls in the next district, while the tolls are maintained in itself is increasing year by year as the Trust Acts cease and determine?—No doubt.

429. Is not that rather an argument for dealing as soon as may be with the general question?—I should not wish to accelerate that injustice, it is a great injustice even now.

430. But if it is an injustice, will it not be better met by dealing with the whole question, and will it not tend to lessen the injustice to make one principle applicable to the whole system?—When you have made provision by enactment for the maintenance of the roads, undoubtedly it will.

431. You think that the Consolidated Fund should contribute?—Yes.

432. But suppose it is the opinion of the Committee and the House of Commons that it is impossible to get Parliament to acquiesce in the application of money from the Consolidated Fund to this purpose, would you then, because you cannot obtain that particular relief, refuse to deal with the question in any manner?—I do not mean to say that that should be an insuperable obstacle.

433. Are you acquainted with all parts of Worcestershire?—I know the county very well indeed.

434. You think that the towns would be rather in favour of this measure?—They would be in favour of the abolition of the toll-bars, I suppose.

435. You think the agriculturists would be opposed to it?—I have no doubt they would.

436. Do you think that those agriculturists who live in parishes through which the turnpike roads now pass, who are liable to repair those roads when the trust terminates, would object to a measure which would widen the area of taxation and lessen their burden?—No, but they would object to the passing of an Act of Parliament which throws a burden on the parishes individually; of course those parishes which would be rated to the amount of 2*s.* 6*d.*, or 2*s.*, would be very glad to have the area of rating extended.

437. The more generally useful those roads are, that is to say, the more through traffic there is, the greater reason there is that the parishes other than those through which the roads immediately run, should be called on to contribute to the repairs, I suppose?—Yes, there is a great deal in that.

438. Is the greater part of Worcester under the Highway Act?—No; perhaps half the county.

439. You think that the Act of Parliament should be made compulsory?—I do not give that opinion particularly, though I am in favour of the Act; it is very unpopular in Worcestershire, however, among the ratepayers.

440. Why is it unpopular in Worcester among the ratepayers?—There is an apprehension that the expenses will be increased; and I think there was an inopportune attempt made to force it upon them without asking their opinion.

441. Do you take part in the highway meetings?—I am chairman of a district.

442. Have you found the expenses increase in that district?—They have increased.

443. I suppose they have increased partly in consequence of the bad condition in which you took the roads into the district?—That is my opinion.

444. Therefore, it would be rather hard to blame the system as being expensive, if it has been so rendered by previous parochial mismanagement?—No doubt. There has been a partial failure in our county, owing to not having in all cases an experienced surveyor.

445. You said you thought that it would not be fair to the occupying tenants to throw the whole of the burden on them?—Certainly not.

446. Is it not your opinion that rates on the occupiers

The Rev. *J. Pearson.*

14 May 1867.

occupiers in the long run re-act on the owners?—It must be a very long run indeed; an additional 1 *s.* rate might be thrown on the occupiers, and for 20 years they would pay that without the least reduction in the rent; if there was a general re-adjustment it might be taken into consideration; but practically the burden is on the occupiers.

447. You have stated that it was unfair for the parishes to take the roads; but that is the present law, and unless something is done as the trusts expire, they will all have to take the roads, will they not?—Yes.

448. Mr. *Clive.*] Will you kindly explain your answer with respect to the millers in Worcestershire?—There are a great many mills in the neighbourhood of Worcester.

449. Are they in the town or outside the town?—The mills are themselves, some of them, in the country, but many of the millers' residences are in the town.

450. How do you use that argument with regard to the roads?—It is merely that their waggons use the roads a good deal, and injure them; they take very heavy burdens; it is not the millers, perhaps, so much as the builders, but the millers' and the builders' waggons and the brewers' are the chief waggons that go along the roads.

451. Are those millers and builders resident in Worcester?—The builders are generally resident in Worcester, and a good many of the largest millers are resident there too.

452. And consequently, they use the roads in Worcester?—Yes.

453. Which roads are repaired by the town?—They use the roads in the town, and the roads contiguous to the town.

454. They deal in articles coming from the country?—They take them backwards and forwards.

455. They use the roads in Worcester backwards and forwards?—Yes.

456. For which they pay nothing?—They pay the rates in Worcester.

457. But no tolls?—We have toll-bars in the city, which we are going to remove, I believe.

458. With regard to the towns and the pleasure traffic, does not that argument apply just as much to every other metropolis as to Worcester?—Yes.

459. And in a greater degree to London?—Yes.

460. Still all the toll-gates around London have been abolished?—Yes.

461. If a measure abolishing tolls succeeds in the neighbourhood of London, why should it not succeed in the neighbourhood of Worcester?—I am not aware to what extent it does succeed in the neighbourhood of London.

462. Do you know that part of Worcestershire which is on the borders of Herefordshire?—Yes, very well.

463. Do you know the working of the Highway Act there?—Yes.

464. Has not public opinion changed in its favour very much?—Yes, I think so.

465. Have they not a competent surveyor in that quarter?—Yes, a very good surveyor in Bromyard district; and the turnpikes interlace the highways.

466. That has been the cause of the success of the Act in that district, you think?—I think so; the district appears well managed.

467. Now, with regard to your own Act of Parliament, when does that Act expire?—At the end of this Session of Parliament.

468. You say that out of your eight divisions seven have no debt?—Yes.

469. And one has a debt?—Yes.

470. Do you really think that trust ought to be kept up merely for the sake of paying one debt out of eight?—Not solely for that purpose. I should mention that the Act of Parliament will not practically expire until next November twelve-months.

471. Next November twelve-months the Act will expire, and then there is no debt except that one on Losemoor?—That is so.

472. Seven out of the eight districts are free from debt?—Yes.

473. The Act expires in 12 months, and then all the mischief that can arise from throwing the roads on the parishes will then arise?—Yes. I think if we were extended for a few years we should finish all our draining, and put the roads in a better condition.

474. But the practical effect is this: that your trust is all but out of debt, and, therefore, that your Act ought not to be renewed according to the general practice adopted by the Committees of this House?—Our trust ought not to be called out of debt, because Losemoor is in debt.

475. Do you think that the Act of Parliament ought to be kept up for the whole of the district, because one-eighth of it is in debt?—Not solely for that reason.

476. But is that a reason at all?—It is to some extent a reason in my own mind. I do not say it is a reason why it should be done; but I should be very sorry to abolish the trust and remain in debt; we would rather pay it ourselves.

477. Could you suggest any practical mode by which the debt could be thrown on the landowners?—I suppose there would be no difficulty in doing that; I am not accurately acquainted with the systems in either Ireland, Scotland, or South Wales, but I believe it has been done there.

478. Do you think it would be possible to let the occupiers deduct it as the Irish poor-rate is deducted from the rent?—Yes.

479. Would you recommend that plan?—I do not say that that is so good a plan as direct assessment; but it would not matter much so long as it was done some how or other.

480. Do you think that the rent would be raised in proportion, supposing the occupier was allowed to deduct?—I think not.

481. You think that the occupier could recoup himself?—I do not think that the owner would raise his rent.

482. And that with some assistance from the Consolidated Fund would be the best course, you think?—I think so.

483. Sir *Robert Anstruther.*] With regard to what you call hauling at improper times, may I ask what would you describe as hauling at improper times?—I mean during the winter months. For building materials our Act of Parliament prohibits that; or at all events, it doubles the toll for hauling at any time from the 1st of October to the 1st of April.

484. Do you think that the doubling of the toll is an aid to the development of the trade of the district?—I think, myself, that less hauling for building purposes does not take place, only it takes place at the proper times; I think the traffic is the same.

485. You

485. You expressed a fear, that in the event of the tolls being abolished the hauling would take place at a season at which they do not haul now?—I do not call that a prohibition on trade, the hauling for building purposes can as well take place in six months as in 12.

486. Is it not a considerable restriction on my trade if you make me pay a double toll at one season of the year, when it may best suit me to haul?—I do not think that practically it acts so, if it is worth the while of parties to pay the double toll, they do pay it.

487. You spoke of a surplus revenue in seven of the trusts?—Yes.

488. You said you thought they could not better apply that than in the liquidation of the debt belonging to the Losemoor district; but do you think that that would be the opinion of the seven trusts that are free from debt?—I am inclined to think that the trustees have a kind of honourable feeling that they would be very sorry that the trust should close while they are in debt, and that the bondholders should not be paid fairly according to the value of the bonds; they have a very strong feeling on that point.

489. You think they would rather apply their surplus money to the assistance of the Losemoor people than apply it for the advantage of their own trust?—I think they would have sufficient funds to keep up their districts in a perfect manner, and to strengthen their roads with even more metal than they have hitherto, and yet spare sufficient to pay that debt. The same trustees act equally for all the districts.

490. Could they not apply their surplus money to better advantage, do you think?—Not so well, I think.

491. Mr. *Mitford.*] With regard to hauling; you are afraid that if the maintenance of the roads were thrown upon the parishes the farmers would haul in the winter instead of the summer?—That hauling for building purposes would take place then.

492. The time when it suited them better than any other time?—Yes.

493. You gather that from what they do upon those roads in parishes which are not turnpike roads?—I gather that from the general feeling of owners of horses that they would rather haul in the winter at half the price than haul in the summer at full price; they have little to do for their horses in the winter and are glad to get them out of the stables.

494. That being the practice in every part of England that is not under the Highway Act?—Just so.

495. You stated that you thought it would be a great advantage to consolidate your district, and that you could do that under the present system?—Yes.

496. Why do you not do so?—I think there might have been an objection to that some time ago, but it is vanishing, and there is a stronger feeling in favour of it; we consulted Mr. Walpole some time ago and he was very much in favour of it.

497. You did not carry it out because the other districts were not all favourable to it, I suppose?—Not so much so then as they are now; the circumstances have altered with regard to our tolls; it would now answer our purpose, and there are facilities which did not exist before.

498. Are you applying for an Act of Parliament this year?—We have applied for nothing yet; we are continued until next November twelvemonths; we never thought of applying for an Act; we were in hopes of being continued from year to year.

499. Mr. *Read.*] You consider the present legislation with respect to turnpikes is by no means perfect?—No.

500. And you appear to think that if we were to pass this Bill as it is, it would be still worse?—I do not like to give my opinion very strongly upon the Bill.

501. That is the impression which I gather from your evidence?—Undoubtedly; I think it would act most unfairly.

502. You said that your establishment charges were $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent; can you tell the Committee anything about the charges for the collection of tolls?—Yes; of course there is a great difficulty in arriving at an accurate conclusion, but we have kept some of the districts in our own hands on some occasions, and it did not cost us more than the lessees; I think it would come to nearly 12 per cent. for the cost of collection; certainly more than 10 per cent.; it would probably be altogether nearly 17 per cent., with management charges.

503. What are the establishment charges of your new highway district?—About 10 per cent.

504. Against $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. in the turnpike trust?—Yes; we are far below the average; the average cost of collection in turnpike trusts is nearly 8 per cent.

505. I understood you to say that, irrespective of the cost of collection, your establishment charges are very much less in the turnpike trust than they are in the highway districts?—Yes, not more than one-half.

506. Is there much through traffic between Malvern and Worcester?—There is a great deal, but nothing like what there formerly was, because there is a railroad; a good many people prefer travelling by road, but all the coaches are taken off.

507. But brewers' carts, and so on, go by road still?—Yes, they are much on the road between Worcester and Malvern.

508. If the tolls were abolished, what would they pay towards the maintenance of the roads?—Most of them would pay nothing at all; those are people principally from Worcester or Malvern; they would pay nothing from Worcester.

509. Have you many quarries in Worcestershire?—We have, in some parts of Worcestershire; in some parts we are very deficient in stone, and in others well off, but we get a large portion for the repairs of the roads from the Clee Hills, in Shropshire.

510. I suppose those quarries contribute something considerable towards the maintenance of the turnpikes; I mean by paying tolls?—The quarries are rateable quarries; they are not worked by shaft.

511. But they would pay very much less towards the rates than they do now towards the tolls, would they not?—They would not pay a large sum towards the rates.

512. And the mills in the same way would pay but a small sum towards the rates?—Just so.

513. Whereas they now pay a considerable sum towards the tolls?—Yes.

514. What do the parishes in the Losemoor District contribute towards the maintenance of the roads?—About every third year there is an order made what they are to contribute; their average

The Rev. *J. Pearson.*

14 May 1867.

average annual contribution would be a small sum in the pound; perhaps it might be altogether, 2*d.* in the pound.

515. Not more than that?—Not much more than that.

516. How comes it to pass that the road near Worcester costs the extraordinary sum of 99*l.* per mile?—It arises a good deal from the material which you make the road with; it is a very wet and clayey soil; it is very much shaded and sheltered, and a considerable part of it wants draining; and we likewise have to haul the stone a long distance from Worcester, which is very expensive; it is 12*s.* a yard where we take it, at the extremity of this district.

517. Those are quite exceptional circumstances, are they not?—Yes; the expenses are much greater there than in any other district.

518. What would be the average rate in your highway district for the maintenance of your parish roads?—6½*d.*

519. Sir *Michael Hicks Beach.*] I understood your opinion to be that, supposing the turnpike roads were maintained by a rate, there would be a great many people who now pay a large amount in tolls who would escape altogether?—Yes.

520. Can you inform the Committee what is the amount of toll paid by those people in comparison with the tolls paid by those who would pay under the rate?—No, it is impossible to get at that. I have often asked the farmers what tolls they pay, and what rate they would pay if they were assessed at so and so; and I find that farmers, generally speaking, pay a much less sum in tolls than they would pay if they were rated for the support of the turnpike roads, calculating what the maintenance of the turnpike roads would cost in that division.

521. Mr. *Clive.*] How many accounts of farmers have you been over to establish that?—I have not taken any very great pains; I have asked them orally.

522. *Chairman.*] You have not seen any figures for that?—No, certainly not; but I have had the account from men whom I could rely upon.

523. Mr. *Clive.*] Have you ever seen a farmer who kept any account of his tolls?—I do not know that I have; but I know farmers who keep very accurate general accounts.

524. Sir *Michael Hicks Beach.*] The amount which a farmer would pay in toll would depend on whether his farm was near a turnpike road or on it?—No doubt.

525. You could hardly get an account from farmers generally of what they pay in tolls, could you?—No; but you know what they would pay under the rate, supposing you consider that an assessment of 6*d.*, 7*d.*, or 8*d.* in the pound was required; and they know what they pay to the turnpike tolls.

526. But a farmer who is on a turnpike-road will pay a considerable amount in tolls, whereas another man who is on the other side of the gate will pay very little indeed?—Undoubtedly; but I have had information from men who do live near gates. I had it yesterday from two large farmers who do live near turnpike-roads.

527. Of course, if a rate was substituted for tolls all the expense of collection would be saved?—Yes.

528. Do you consider that the saving of that expense would in any way counterbalance the loss of tolls from those who would not pay under a rate?—To a very slight extent, it would not counterbalance it, certainly.

529. Not in any district that you are acquainted with?—Certainly not.

530. I understood you to say that you would prefer that the whole of your district should be kept up, in order to pay off the debt of the trust to the abolition of those gates in the district which are out of debt?—Yes; there would be no objection to keeping up the districts which are out of debt to relieve the district in debt, on which we have not enough revenue to pay any portion of the debt, and we cannot even pay the interest and maintain the roads.

531. Do you think that if you abolished those gates in your district on which there was no debt, and kept up those on which there was a debt, you would divert the traffic from the roads on which you keep up the gates, and send it on the roads on which the gates would be abolished?—They chiefly lie in opposite directions; it might diminish the revenue on the Losemoor district if that was the only one continued, but it would not have much effect; it would no doubt make us less able to pay off the debt.

532. Was there much through traffic on your roads formerly?—Yes.

533. That was from the coaches, I suppose?—Yes, a great deal.

534. Do you consider that that gives you any claim on the Consolidated Fund towards the payment of any expense incurred in making your roads?—The chief claim which we have on the Consolidated Fund is, that those roads were devoted to public purposes, almost to imperial purposes, and we have a claim on the Consolidated Fund on that account, particularly as the Consolidated Fund is contributed to by all taxpayers; those taxpayers who use our roads a great deal, and would pay nothing on the abolition of the turnpikes towards the maintenance of the road, would pay to some extent through the Consolidated Fund.

535. Other people besides ratepayers contribute to the Consolidated Fund, and you wish them to contribute also?—Yes, because they use the roads.

536. Do you consider that you have a greater claim on the Consolidated Fund for the debt than for the future maintenance of the roads?—No; we have fully as much claim for the maintenance of the road as we have for the debt. The debts may sometimes have been incurred by bad management.

537. Lord *Henley.*] With regard to the width of the wheels; what is the width allowed by the Act of Parliament now?—There is a difference between six inches, four inches, and so on.

538. There is nothing allowed wider than a certain width, is there?—Yes, any width, but it must roll flat; we do not care how wide the wheels are, only they must not be narrow.

539. Do you meet with complaints from brewers and others, on account of those restrictions?—No, I am not aware of any.

540. One question with regard to those seven solvent trusts; would they not prefer to reduce their tolls rather than to pay off the debt of the eighth trust?—The payment from each of them would be very small towards the debt; they would not be able from their surplus to reduce their tolls a penny in a sixpenny toll; it would take a very small contribution to pay off the debt.

541. But would they not rather reduce their tolls than pay off the debt?—No; because the sum that they would have to pay in order to pay off that small debt is not sufficient to enable them to reduce their tolls at all, and consequently they would feel no interest in not paying off the debt; the roads would be equally well maintained if they paid the debt.

542. Mr. *Holland.*] I think you said that people in the country would rather pay toll than pay rates?—That is my experience with agriculturists, generally.

543. That is when parishes are acting separately from one another?—Yes.

544. Suppose the parishes were to join, would the same thing then exist?—I think it would, because if the parishes joined, every parish would have to pay its part to the general fund; if there was a general fund under the Highway Board, every parish would have to contribute its quota, and their aversion would still exist, I think, though in a mitigated form.

545. Mr. *Knight.*] The difficulty would be spread over a larger area, would it not?—Yes.

546. Colonel *French.*] You stated that the income of the trust amounted to 7,600 *l.*, and the expenditure to 7,400 *l.*—I think the income for three years was about 7,600 *l.*, and the expenditure was about 7,400 *l.*; our surplus would be generally rather greater.

547. Do you include the expense of your surveyors in that sum?—Yes.

548. And the expenditure on the road?—Yes.

549. You have a debt of 2,150 *l.* remaining on one district?—Yes.

550. And you propose that, in the event of this Bill passing, the payment of that money should be thrown on the landholders and on the Consolidated Fund?—Yes.

551. And that in future there should be a division of the expenditure for the maintenance of the roads, either by throwing them on the county at large, or by dividing the county into highway districts?—Yes, the one being supplemented from the Consolidated Fund.

552. You said that this Act would throw unfairly the expense of the maintenance of the roads upon the parishes?—Yes.

553. You are aware that this Bill has nothing to say to that question, but that by the common law of the land that expenditure is thrown on the parishes?—Yes, but every trust expected that there would be legislation before their trust would be discontinued. We had no idea but that we should be kept in the Continuance Act until there was some legislation on the subject.

554. For what reason did you think so?—We thought the Legislature, as men of business, would take that course.

555. But you incurred those debts on a certain security?—Yes.

556. An Act of Parliament for a given number of years, 30 or 20 years?—Yes.

557. And on the security of that Act of Parliament you borrowed this money?—Yes.

558. You have not, during that time, been able to pay off the debt?—Not upon this district.

559. You have had frequent renewals to enable you to pay the interest from the time the Act expired?—Yes, and under those renewals we have paid off a great debt on the other districts.

560. Could you inform the Committee when the Act of Parliament under which this 2,150 *l.* was borrowed, expired?—I think we had an Act in 1833, and another Act in 1847. The 1833 Act had not expired before 1847; we wanted fresh legislation. It was under the 1833 Act that this money was borrowed, I think; or perhaps before.

561. You have had an additional security given to you for 34 years to enable you to pay off the debt then?—Yes, for the general purpose of meeting our obligations in all the districts; we had had a debt on all the districts; 15,000 *l.* or 20,000 *l.* in some districts, and we have paid all off except that one.

562. But do you not think that you have been very much favoured by Parliament in their extending the time for paying those debts incurred by the improvident or wasteful management of the trustees?—I am not aware that those debts were incurred by the improvident or wasteful management of the trustees.

563. If that was not the case the security could not have been sufficient?—Of course the security was not very good, but there were hopes that the traffic would increase, and it has not increased in that district.

564. Now the owners of the land on whom you propose to throw a portion of the payment of this debt were no parties to the borrowing of this money, were they?—They were no doubt parties not only to the borrowing but to the lending this money, to some extent; a man whose property was benefited by a road being carried through it would be ready to give every facility to it, and even to lend money for that purpose.

565. In several instances very large sums of money have been given up by English landowners for roads to enable the trustees to meet the payment of interest?—Yes.

566. Do you think that there is any claim in justice on any parties to pay off a debt such as your own debt of 2,100 *l.*, the Act of Parliament expiring this Session, so that if it is not renewed by the Home Office there will be no security whatever for the payment of any portion of it?—I think that for all money borrowed there is a moral as well as legal responsibility between the borrower and the lender as an individual I should be very sorry to borrow money on bad security and fail to pay it: and I think as a public man, acting in a public capacity, one is bound to pursue the same course. I see nothing unfair in any way to the other districts; I think it is acting honestly, or at all events, in honour.

567. Do you think it is acting honestly to the districts that are not in debt, and which are not under any responsibility for the borrowing of this money, that they should pay it for the other parties?—If they wish to do so, I see no objection to it, though they are not legally bound. The trustees who borrowed act equally for all districts.

568. Colonel *Stuart.*] Does the road material pay toll generally?—No.

569. The traffic brought upon the road by the material does not pay toll?—No.

570. The stone comes by rail, I suppose?—Yes, by rail, at least some part of it.

571. Has the interest always been paid on the Losemoor debt?—Yes.

572. Four per cent.?—Four-and-a-half per cent.

573. Do not the customers of the brewers and millers generally live in the country?—A good many of them live in the city.

 574. Those

The Rev. *J. Pearson.*

14 May, 1867.

574. Those that live in the country pay toll, do they not?—Yes; but no brewers live in the country.

575. But their customers do?—Yes.

576. If the people who live in the country, and who now pay tolls, were to pay a rate instead, that would be an item in the price of the beer, I suppose?—No; I think they would not get the beer any cheaper if there was no toll.

577. You think that the brewers and millers would pocket the difference entirely?—I should expect so; in so small a sum, I do not believe there would be any reduction.

578. You say that the farmers who contribute to the tolls pay a much less sum than they would if they paid a rate; have you any idea whether they go round the roads of neighbouring parishes to avoid tolls?—There may be instances.

579. Do they do that to any extent?—Not in my neighbourhood, I think.

580. Mr. *More.*] Do you know many other counties besides Worcestershire?—Yes, pretty well.

581. Do you think that the operation of the Highway Act is more popular than unpopular?—I do not think it is really popular with the body of ratepayers generally; but in some counties they are gradually getting reconciled to it.

582. Do you think that it would become more popular if the maintenance of all the roads were placed under the same management?—I think this unpopularity would not have existed if there had been a Compulsory Act.

583. Do you not think that the farmers would consider it more economical to employ one set of officers for the maintenance of the roads?—I do not know that you could employ one set of officers; if you did you must pay them much more than you do now.

584. But not double?—Our officers have sufficient employment in our highway district; our surveyor has as much as he can do.

585. You see no objection to rating the inhabitants of towns or boroughs for the maintenance of turnpike roads?—It would be very difficult to rate those who are not within the sphere of your rateal.

586. I understand you to say that they might be expected to contribute?—I think they ought to contribute, and they would contribute supposing a certain sum was paid out of the Consolidated Fund; that is the way in which they would contribute; I do not see how we could rate parties living in a city.

587. Do you think that they would be sufficiently interested in paying the debts and the abolition of tolls not to object to a payment to the Consolidated Fund?—I think there would be no opposition.

588. Not on their part?—It would be more popular with the rural population than the urban population, no doubt.

589. Mr. *Welby.*] You say that in your highway district the expenses have been considerably increased; to what extent have they been increased?—They have been increased about 3*d.* in the pound, but this present year they are decreasing again; we put on a great deal more material; the roads are improved, and we are now decreasing the expense, so that the present year will not exceed by more than 2*d.* in the pound the sum formerly expended on the road.

590. Mr. *Clive.*] They will be better roads?—Certainly.

591. Mr. *Welby.*] You stated that the roads were bad when the Highway Act was adopted?—Many of them were very bad, and some of them are not very good now.

592. But on the whole, you think that the improvement has been commensurate with the increased expenditure?—I think so.

593. You think that the feeling of opposition is dying away to some extent?—I should not say that the opposition was dying away in Worcestershire; that is from particular causes.

594. Mr. *Whalley.*] You have represented to us very clearly, that there are two parties concerned, the county and the city, the county would be for keeping up the tolls, and the city would be generally against it?—Yes.

595. You also stated that it would be regarded as unfair, if those Acts of Parliament were not renewed, and if the burdens were thrown on the districts?—Yes.

596. Can you point out to me any reason that either the county or the city had when those Acts of Parliament were passed, to suppose that they would be renewed, and that the burden would not at the termination of the periods of the Acts fall upon them?—I should apprehend that the trustees in every trust considered that they would be able to obtain an Act of Parliament from time to time. I do not think that any trust has contemplated the Act being the last that they would get. When we obtained our Act of Parliament in the year 1847, we had no idea but that we should have another Act in due time; there is an impression just now against the system of turnpike trusts, and consequently we do not apply now for an Act of Parliament.

597. The city has been subjected to those tolls for a certain term, and the county also was relieved of the tolls for a certain term, and that term having come to an end, I want to know, either on one side or the other, on what ground you can put it that the city should be subjected to tolls any longer, and on what ground you can put it that the county should be relieved from those rates any longer?—It appears to me, with all deference, that the ground is very plain. The same reason which actuated our former legislators to change the system and to adopt the system of tolls, instead of the repair of the roads by the parishes, ought still to actuate them. It has now been a long while since that burden was removed from the pockets of the patepayers in the different parishes, and this is not a time when you wish to impose new burdens; it is very unfair when all the present generation have been utterly unused to such a burden, that they should now have a burden imposed upon them from which they thought they were relieved.

598. Is not the present time much more favourable to the ratepayers for having this burden thrown on them than they could reasonably have contemplated 30 years since, now that they have railways passing through the parishes which bear a large portion of the rates and take away the foreign traffic, so that the traffic is almost entirely confined to the persons who would pay the rates?—Yes, but I do not think that constitutes a sufficient reason.

599. But it makes a difference in their favour?—Yes.

600. You stated that there were certain imperial purposes connected with these roads, and that that would be a reason for coming upon the Exchequer for funds, but does not that apply much more to some roads than to others?—No doubt.

601. For

601. For instance, to the main mail roads?—Yes.

602. Do you know the Holyhead road, for instance?—Yes, I know the road.

603. The circumstances of every road would vary with regard to the claim on the public funds?—Undoubtedly; but in many localities new turnpike roads have been made, not for the sake of the parish, but for the sake of the public traffic.

604. Mr. *Goldney.*] You would allow that the increase of public traffic benefits the neighbourhood of a town?—Of course.

605. Supposing the burden was cast upon them by an increased public traffic, they would still have some compensation?—Yes, but it tells so unequally.

606. Did you state the number of miles in your trust?—We have 156 miles.

607. The income of that trust is about 7,600 *l.*?—Yes.

608. You said that the establishment charges were about five per cent., I think?—Yes, very nearly.

609. Can you inform the Committee what you call establishment charges?—They are chiefly officers; we scarcely include anything else.

610. No tradesmen's bills?—No.

611. Not the repair of the toll-houses and gates?—We should include the repair of the toll-houses, but not the tradesmen's bills generally.

612. I make out the expenditure on your trust, irrespective of repairs, to amount to 1,500 *l.* in the particular year which I have before me; so that assuming that the expenses charged in last year's return were on 7,600 *l.*, they amount to 20 per cent.?—There is something included there which I did not include in the establishment charges.

613. Have you ever let your roads under contract?—Yes, one road.

614. Are they not so let now?—No.

615. Was there any great saving in that case?—No.

616. No saving?—No.

617. There is no treasurer's salary charged, I see, in the return?—He has no salary.

618. What balance does he have in his hands?—It is a very uncertain balance; we always wish that he should have 1,000 *l.* at least.

619. Do you not think that the interest of that 1,000 *l.* would come into the question of establishment charges?—No.

620. *Chairman.*] The income for the last three years was 7,600 *l.*?—Yes.

621. Taking the items in this return for 1864, I perceive that the salaries alone come to 420 *l.*, and even five per cent. on 7,600 *l.* would be 380 *l.*?—The officers constitute the great item of the establishment charges; there is scarcely anything else that I include myself.

622. Mr. *Goldney.*] Can you tell the Committee what is the difference in the toll letting now, and what it was 15 or 20 years ago, before the railway system came into active operation?—We have reduced our tolls so very often, that it would be very difficult to answer that question; but between Worcester and Malvern, before we had any railroad, the excess above what we get now would be rather more than one-third.

623. Do you think that the income from tolls now is half what it was before the railways came?—Yes, it is much more than that.

624. Is it two-thirds?—Yes, more than that upon our entire trust, because some of our roads are very little affected by the railroads.

625. Taking your calculations with regard to the different rates, has it entered into your consideration at all to deal with the exemptions for agricultural produce; if agricultural produce was not exempted what would be the amount of tolls that people would have to pay?—It would be considerably more; we have a specific exemption in our own trust.

626. But there is a general exemption in the favour of agricultural produce and lime, as manure, would be included?—Yes.

627. What would that amount to on the existing tolls?—It would be impossible to make an accurate calculation.

628. But that is a great element in the question between rates and tolls, is it not?—It is not a very important element, I think.

629. Now with regard to the Consolidated Fund which you think should bear a portion of the repairs and the debt; suppose a county in England had redeemed its debt and by its own exertions removed the turnpike roads and taken on themselves the repairs, how would they stand with regard to the Consolidated Fund?—Of course there are exceptions, and there are sometimes hardships even in doing justice.

630. In Essex have got rid of turnpike roads; do you think that it would be fair for them to contribute to the Consolidated Fund for your roads?—No, but it was probably their good fortune as well as their own exertions which enabled them to get rid of their turnpike roads.

631. Mr. *Knight.*] Is there any other remark that you would like to make?—No, except that I think the operation of this Act or any other Act like it would be peculiarly severe on the trust I represent.

632. *Chairman.*] You have read the Bill carefully, I suppose?—Very.

633. Mr. *Knight.*] Do you mean Losemoor only?—I mean the Worcester trust; I am speaking of the additional impost.

634. *Chairman.*] You stated that farmers and owners of horses would rather haul in winter than in summer?—Yes.

635. But they are generally rather large ratepayers, are they not?—Yes.

636. If they hauled in winter they would be spending their own money in increasing their own rates, would they not?—No doubt they would be glad to haul in winter, at any charge, but the winter hauling applies only to building materials.

637. Did I understand you to say that you did not apply for another Act of Parliament because there was a feeling in your neighbourhood against the existence of turnpike trusts?—No, I did not say that. There is a growing feeling against the existence of turnpike trusts generally, but not in our neighbourhood particularly. I do not know that the city is so much opposed to trusts; they threatened, if we did apply for a new Act, or even for a continuation of the Act, they would oppose it, unless we removed the gates out of the boundary of the City. I think I have to correct a previous answer; we formerly had estimates with regard to our road to do the work by contract, but we never did it; we never repaired any of our districts under contract. The estimates showed scarcely any saving.

Mr. JOHN EDWIN BRADFIELD, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. E. Bradfield.*

14 May 1867.

638. Mr. *Clive.*] YOU are an Agent, I think?—I am.

639. You have been interested a good deal in the question of the abolition of metropolitan tolls?—Yes.

640. You gave a strong opinion before the Committee of 1864 on that subject, did you not?—I did.

641. Has your subsequent experience justified that opinion?—It has confirmed it.

642. You also gave an opinion with regard to the Continuance Act?—Yes.

643. Do you retain that opinion still?—I do.

644. You addressed a letter to Mr. Walpole last year, on the subject, I believe?—I did.

645. Now, with regard to the mode of dealing with the trusts in the Home Office, will you give the Committee your view with regard to that?—The mode of dealing with the trusts in the Home Office is the greatest obstacle in the whole system. When a trust expires, or, I ought to say, the year before the trust expires, the words of the Annual Continuance Act catch hold of that trust, and continue it for a year beyond the period named for its expiry in the Act of Parliament itself, and the subsequent year's Continuation Act does the same. The result is this, that in some cases that have come under my notice, and in some of which I am now acting, the trusts have been continued for 20 years annually, by means of the Continuance Act, without any inquiry, so far as the public interest is concerned. That was the case in the New-cross Trust in London, it is now the case in the Devizes Trust, and in many other trusts; there is no inquiry in the public interest whatever.

646. There is no adequate investigation, you think?—Virtually there is none whatever.

647. Have you considered the mode by which the action of the Secretary of State is called into operation by the Bill before the Committee now?—That only applies, as I read the Bill, to certain cases.

648. And under certain legislative enactments?—Yes.

649. But would your objections to the previous practice of the Secretary of State apply to the provisions of this Bill?—I think not, with some slight exceptions.

650. With regard to the time at which the Continuance Act has been brought in generally, have you any opinion to offer to the Committee on that point?—I have gone through the times at which the Annual Continuance Act has been brought in since the year 1857; it was brought in, in the year 1857, on the 15th of July; in 1858 it was brought in on the 13th of July; in 1859 it was brought in on the 29th of July; and in no case was it brought in earlier than the latter end of June.

651. What year was that?—I beg your pardon, it was July the 2nd, in the year 1862; in 1865 it was June 16th; that was the year after the Committee sat.

652. Now, to come to the accounts of the trusts in general, is it not the law that a copy of the accounts must be sent to the Secretary of State by the 24th of April?—Yes, a copy of the accounts to the 31st December previous.

653. Is there not a penalty for the infraction of that law?—Yes.

654. How much is that penalty?—It ranges from 5*l.* to 10*l.*, according to Act of Parliament.

655. Is that enactment complied with?—I do not think it is, because I have in my hand the last two blue books on the subject, laid on the table of the House of Commons in August last year; one is made up to the 31st December, 1863, and the other is made up to the same period in 1864; they were delivered in February this year; we have no returns of 1865 or 1866, both are due; but I have got a printed statement of the accounts of one trust, and I could get others up to the 31st December 1866.

656. So that enactment might have been complied with very easily?—Yes, I think there is an immense distance of time between the periods at which they are delivered; but it is a mere question of classification afterwards.

657. Where do you think the blame rests?—I can only say that those are the facts; it must rest with those who do not produce the accounts.

658. And with those who do not enforce the production?—Yes; there is another instance of how those things are not enforced in the case of the 13 & 14 Victoria, with regard to the Sinking Fund.

659. Sir *Robert Anstruther.*] Is it the fact that those accounts are not sent in, and that therefore the blame lies with the trust, or do you think that the delay is in the office, with respect to the classifying?—The Act expressly says that those accounts shall be made up to the 31st December in each year, and they are so made out; the clerk is bound under a penalty to send to the Secretary of State those accounts before the 24th of April, and if he does not do that, a power exists in the Home Office to compel him to do it.

660. Mr. *Clive.*] I presume you are aware that the interest on the debt has been reduced very considerably by Committees of this House?—The Committees generally have reduced the debt in cases which have been investigated, and fixed a time in which the abolition was to take place. The strongest case I ever knew was that in Sir William Jolliffe's Committee on the Surrey and Sussex roads, in the year 1850, when that important and large trust was continued for 11 years, and the interest fixed at 3½ per cent.

661. Instead of what?—I do not remember, exactly. That enabled the trust to be abolished within a year or so after the expiry of the Act.

662. How was it in the case of the Holyhead Road Bill?—That was a Government Bill, by which the Government gave up 52,000*l.* of a debt of 74,000*l.* without interest.

663. Is there not a third case where 100,000*l.* was given up?—That was the case of the two Dukes mentioned by Colonel Pennant and Mr. Wrightson, in the Committee of 1864.

664. Lord *Henley.*] What sort of difficulties have you met with in the office of the Secretary of State?—I have met with no difficulties with regard to the Metropolitan Trusts. I should rather say that I have been materially assisted by Sir George Grey; but what I was referring to is the result of investigations into trusts, and those circumstances had occurred before I had been in action.

665. Do you think that those investigations were not fully carried out?—I think there has been a great want of carrying out the principles laid

laid down by the Committees of the House of Commons, and also the report of Mr. Wrightson's Committee of 1849, and altogether of the general legislation in view of the abolition of turnpike trusts. It waits a pressure on the Home Office before anything is done.

666. Do you think that the reports of Committees have been neglected, or that the necessary action upon those reports has not been taken?—I think the latter.

667. But do you attribute that to the want of strength in the Home Office in the way of staff?—I do not know what to attribute it to. In one case that I had before me, which is the case of Devizes, the gentlemen who applied for a deputation have been respectfully declined to be seen.

668. On what ground?—Because a prejudged opinion has been given on a statement received from the trustees.

669. *Chairman.*] Will you give the Committee the date of that refusal?—It is this year. Mr. Ewart, the Member for Dumfries, applied, I think.

670. Lord *Henley.*] Does it appear to you that the question of those trusts has not been duly examined into, either by the Secretary of State or by the Under Secretary?—Only one side of it is examined.

671. Which side is that?—The side of the trust and the parishes, and not the public side.

672. You think that the public side is not sufficiently considered?—I think it is not seen.

673. Do you make any complaint of the Home Office authorities delegating matters to clerks or others who would not be anxious to press matters on?—The practice of the Home Office is to write to the clerk of the trustees and act on his representation, and whatever may be the representation from the toll-payers who pay the money, that is considered very little in comparison with the clerk's statement.

674. But you consider that in the Home Office the subject of turnpike trusts has been fully considered by the principal authorities, either by the Secretary or the Under Secretary of State?—Whenever I have been before them by deputation it is so.

675. But still you find that the thing has not worked very well in the Secretary of State's Office; it has not worked to your satisfaction as an abolitionist?—Certainly not.

676. You have stated that you thought the difficulties which have occurred hitherto in the Secretary of State's Office would not occur with respect to this Bill?—With certain exceptions.

677. Have you looked at the Bill?—Yes.

678. Do you not think that the action required from the Secretary of State by this Bill would be likely to occasion quite as much or more work than is required by the existing system?—I think that there will be a great deal more work required in the Secretary of State's Office.

679. So much more as actually to require an addition to the staff?—I am satisfied that the present staff of the Secretary of State's Office could not do the work, because, in other respects, the office is overworked.

680. Taking the provision in the fourth clause with respect to the calculation of the debt with the existing surplus revenue, it would require a very considerable knowledge of figures, and, perhaps, a notary to work that out?—Yes.

681. The allocation of that to various parishes would require great local knowledge, would it not?—Yes.

682. Could that be done by a central office in London without information from persons actually on the spot?—I do not think there would be any difficulty in directing that from the central office, because it would inform itself by local inquiries, if properly constituted.

683. But that would require a considerable amount of work?—Decidedly.

684. Colonel *Stuart.*] The public do not appear before the Secretary of State; in fact, the toll-payers do not?—The toll-payers do not, and from the almost deceptive language of the Continuation Act they let the time pass by.

685. If all trusts in debt had been sent by the Secretary of State before Committees of the House of Commons, the debt would have been nearly extinguished, you think, by this time?—I think if the Continuance Act had been abolished years and years ago, this Committee would have very little to do.

686. If the provision that was made in the Report of 1864 had been carried out, that every trust in debt should have been forced to come before a Committee of the House, the debt would have been extinguished in the usual manner, under special Acts of Parliament, would it not?—That quite accords with my opinion, and with the views I expressed to Mr. Walpole in the letter that I wrote to him last December, namely, that the Continuance Act should not be brought in as a Continuance Act, but that it should be referred to a committee, and that no trust should be continued unless the circumstances were inquired into, either by a standing committee or a special committee, and that the toll-payers should be allowed to attend before the committee.

687. A standing committee like the Court of Referees, you mean?—Just so.

688. Mr. *Whalley.*] Do you concur in the opinion expressed by the other witnesses, that the circumstances of those several trusts are exceedingly diverse in different localities?—Certainly.

689. In order to administer justice among them, all the local circumstances must be investigated, must they not?—There are exceptional circumstances, no doubt.

690. Do you consider that such circumstances could or could not be best investigated on the spot by local inquiries?—In some cases; I should be sorry to give a decided opinion with regard to all cases, because I think local inquiries are sometimes tinted with an interest which is against the public interest.

691. But, as a general rule, should you not suppose that the facts bearing on any particular trust could be more accurately and economically ascertained by local investigation than by an investigation by the Secretary of State at his office, or even by a Committee of this House?—That is rather a difficult question; I should think that a Committee of this House, or even a department of the Secretary of State's office, invested with the powers of a Committee, would certainly be the best party to inquire into those things, because where there are exceptional circumstances, they could inquire quite as well on the spot as local bodies can.

692. Does your experience enable you to state if it would be desirable that any authority to whom the carrying out of this Act should be entrusted

Mr. *J. E. Bradfield.*

14 May 1867.

entrusted should have the power of making local inquiries if they deemed it requisite?—Just so.

693. Then, assuming that the Secretary of State for the Home Department is not by the constitution of his office qualified to carry out the present law, do you think he would be the best qualified person to carry out a local inquiry?—If he has the power to do it, and it is compulsory that it should be done, I see no reason why the Secretary of State's office should not do it the same as any Commission or other public body; it is compulsory power that is wanted.

694. A local inquiry instituted by the Secretary of State would, of course, imply that he would be the court of appeal from that local inquiry, to control and direct it; do you think that the Secretary of State is the proper officer to take charge of such a duty?—I have already stated that, so far as the Secretary of State's office is concerned, there is an immense amount of business, and that, as at present constituted, it would not be judicious to invest him with the power of carrying out this Bill; but I assume that a staff of the office is to be created for the purpose of carrying out the Bill.

695. Have you any knowledge of the operation of the Inclosure Commission?—I have not.

696. Mr. *Sclater-Booth.*] I do not know whether you are acquainted with the circumstances under which the metropolitan tolls north of the Thames were abolished?—Yes.

697. Are you acquainted with all the particulars of the Act of Parliament which regulates the proceedings of the present Commission or trustees?—The present Act is the Act of 1863.

698. Are there not legislative provisions of various dates which are carried into effect by that body of trustees?—For the north of the Thames the law is contained in the Bill of 1863; that Act virtually abolished the old Commission, which was a perpetual Commission, and gave 21 years term to the trust.

699. Knowing what you do of the proceedings of that Commission, are you of opinion or not that it would be necessary to except the proceedings of that Commission from the operation of the present Act?—I should rather humbly apply to this Committee to put a special clause in this Bill to abolish that trust as soon as possible—it was so intended at the time of the passing of the Act—there is a clause in that Act of Parliament which gives a permissive power to the parishes within the area to remove the turnpikes, but on account of its permissive nature, it has not been acted on, and the result is, that all the carriers of hay and straw from Essex, and the north-eastern parts of Middlesex, use the metropolitan roads without making any contribution whatever; whereas the metropolitan people that want to get through to Chiswick or Willesden, or the Manor House or Stamford Hill, must pay toll in order to do so. The trust is altogether without debt, and it exists almost by sufferance, because that is a permissive Bill; I should hope that this Committee would deal with that Act, and pass some clause by which the parishes on the borders of the metropolis should be forced to do the same as the parishes within the inner heart of London; instead of excepting them, I hope the Committee will extend the operations of the enactment of 1863 throughout the whole area of the Metropolis Roads Commission, as an act of justice to the metropolis.

700. Mr. *Goldney.*] Your complaint against the Secretary of State's Office has been based on two instances; one complaint is, that the returns of the expenditure of each particular trust has not been analysed; and the other complaint is, that an interview with one of the deputations was refused; those returns must be signed by the chairman and clerk of each trust, must they not?—Yes.

701. Are there a great many trusts that only meet at long intervals, sometimes of six months?—If they do they are not well looked after in the Home Office; but I am not aware of that.

702. But suppose that were so those returns could not be sent in until the meeting took place, could they?—The Act says that they shall be sent in by the 24th of April.

703. But unless they were signed they would not be received at the Home Office?—I do not know the practice.

704. But an account would not be a return if it was signed by no one?—Just so.

705. And without those returns the analysis would be incomplete?—Yes.

706. Have you not ascertained from the Home Office that they have not received the returns sufficiently early for the purposes of their analysis?—That has not come within my inquiry.

707. But have you not ascertained as a matter of fact, from the Home Office, that they have not had those returns in?—I have ascertained on some inquiries that I made, that there were figures which were not returned to Parliament.

708. Have you not ascertained, as a fact, that they have not had the returns in, so as to enable them to make them up, have you not been told so?—No, I have not been told so; the only explanation that I heard was before this Committee on the last occasion of its sitting.

709. Was not the drift of the deputation which you have referred to to the same effect as the result of a long correspondence which had taken place on both sides of the question?—It was.

710. And answers had already been given to both parties with regard to what the Secretary of State's views were?—The answer given to the parties whom I represent was, that the trust would be discontinued in last year's Act.

711. But what I ask is, had not definite answers been given by the present Secretary of State to both parties, both parties having sent in a statement of their case?—I think you misconceive me. A memorial was sent to the Secretary of State by Mr. Ewart, and the answer is, "Several memorials have been received praying for the continuance of the trust; Mr. Walpole has already consented to propose the continuance of the trust on a considerable reduction in the rate of interest."

712. But had there not previously to their declining to receive the deputation, been definite answers given to the memoralists on a statement of their own case in writing?—In reply to a previous statement.

713. *Chairman.*] You state that under this Bill, more work would be imposed on the Secretary of State's Office; but would it not be work clearly defined, with rules laid down for his guidance?—It is so to a certain extent.

714. The work is all clearly laid down in the Bill, is it not?—I do not think that the Bill takes in all classes of trust. I stated that there were certain exceptions.

715. But

715. But the work which is not defined now is defined by the Bill, and less?—Yes.

716. Mr. *Mitford.*] What trusts are not included in the Bill?—I do not think that such a case as the metropolitan roads is comprised within the Bill, and I do not think that such a case as the commercial roads, which extends from the City up to Blackwall, is comprised within the Bill.

717. *Chairman.*] Are not those cases in which a certain defined Act of Parliament gives certain powers. This Bill does not propose to terminate any Act of Parliament before its natural termination, does it?—If I have misconceived the objects of the Bill it is my fault; the trusts that I have put down, according to my humble judgment, which this Bill does not at present deal with, were the metropolitan roads, the commercial roads, the Dulwich and Highgate Archway, and also the Greenwich Ferry roads, which are within my own sphere of action.

718. Colonel *Stuart.*] Are those perpetual trusts?—Some of them are perpetual, and some of them are proprietary, and some of them have a large amount of debt.

719. *Chairman.*] But they are all under special Acts of Parliament, I suppose?—No, not all; not the Dulwich nor the Highgate Archway.

720. Mr. *Mitford.*] None of them are under the Continuance Act, I presume?—Not one of them.

721. Lord *Henley.*] I should imagine this Bill taking in all the trusts out of debt, and all that are in debt, must include all the trusts?—I did not read the Act in that sense.

SPECIAL

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

TURNPIKE TRUSTS BILL

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

AND

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
5 and 18 *June* 1867.

[*Price* 6 *d.*]

352.

Under 8 *oz.*